

# The USC/CHLA Summer Oncology Research Fellowship (SORF) Program

## Program Description

Our NIH-supported highly-competitive Summer Oncology Research Fellowship (SORF) Program is designed for students in the summer between their 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> year of medical school who are considering a biomedical career that involves cancer research. This research fellowship is held at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) and at the Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California (USC).

SORF immerses top medical students in cutting-edge research experiences within a Team Science framework in oncology and related fields. Students are matched with mentoring teams according to interests and research experience. Research projects are in pediatric, AYA or adult oncology, in fields of clinical, translational, or laboratory research and/or new frontiers in bioinformatics, biomedical engineering, precision medicine, population-based research, survivorship and other oncology-related fields. Students are immersed in their research project under experienced faculty mentors, visit centers of emerging sciences, participate in social activities, interact with faculty, trainees, and cancer survivors and engage in a dynamic interactive curriculum of selected topics in oncology, career development, research skills, research communication and responsible conduct of research. Students further enhance their skills through scientific reports and poster and oral presentations. Students may return for additional research weeks later in the year and are encouraged to present their work at local, national and international conferences and to compile their data into a manuscript for publication. Many have gone on to successful academic medical careers involving cancer research and related disciplines.



## Contact for Information:

[HSOP@chla.usc.edu](mailto:HSOP@chla.usc.edu)



Students apply online. Following careful review SORF executive committee invites the top 10%-20% of applicants to the program. Invited students indicate their top five project/mentor choices from a list provided and are paired with one. They then connect with their mentor, read background and conceptualize and submit a Research Proposal prior to arrival. Applicants with serious laboratory research interest are given special attention. Students from underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply.

Students receive a \$600/week subsistence. Travel and housing assistance are available for qualifying students. Some students may also be supported for additional research weeks during the school year.

## To Apply

Online application and guidelines are at the SORF program's website:  
<https://www.chla.org/fellowship/summer-oncology-research-fellowship>

Applications for Summer 2020 are due **January 15, 2020**

Invitations will be offered in February. EARLY ADMISSION with early commitment prior to the deadline is available for interested qualifying students.

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