

Biology Student Internship/MD Anderson University Outreach Program

What: The MD Anderson University Outreach Program is a summer research internship program where undergraduate students from select universities will get hands on research experience. Here, students will be randomly assigned to a lab based on their interests listed in their application and will work with a faculty mentor and bench mentor to assist on research projects. Students will have the opportunity to work on both *in vitro* and *in vivo* animal studies, and also may have the chance to meet with patients as well.

Students also will be able to partake in workshops where they will learn about cancer in depth as well as professionalism workshops to learn how to network in professional scientific settings, research processes, etc. The program culminates in a poster presentation and elevator speech competition where students will compete for cash prizes. Students receive 2 credits for the preparatory course in the winter semester, as well as 1 summer credit, and 3 ExEL credits total.

Where: The University Outreach program brings students to the main MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX. Housing is not covered, but some local hotels do offer long-stay discounts for students in the program and include shuttle service to and from MD Anderson and surrounding areas.

When: The program runs for 10 weeks starting in early June until mid August. The schedules vary based on your mentors, meetings and lab requirements. Students can expect to be on campus every day for a minimum of 6 hours per day, but again it could be more or less depending on the demands of the lab and the project students are assigned to.

Application Details: Applications for this program through Nova Southeastern University begin in the Fall semester around October and are due around mid November. Applications will be made available through the Biology Department at NSU, but students can also apply directly through MD Anderson (Summer Undergraduate Research Program). Application requirements for the NSU application include:

- Filled out application form (with photo)
- Tetanus Vaccine Certification/Medical Insurance
- 3 recommendation letters, with 2 being from Halmos science faculty
- Personal Statement (<500 words)
- Transcript

There will be an interview as well with Halmos science faculty following submission of the application.

Program Contacts: Please contact Dr Aarti Raja (araja@nova.edu) or Dr Emily Schmitt Lavin (eschmitt@nova.edu) with any questions about the program.