

Dear Faculty Member:

We invite your students to apply for our NIH/NCI-funded Pediatric Oncology Education (POE) Program <http://www.stjude.org/poe>. The program offers a unique opportunity for students preparing for careers in the biomedical sciences, medicine, and pharmacy to gain biomedical and oncology research experience. Students participate in basic or clinical oncology research, research and clinical conferences, and a core lecture series designed specifically for them. All participants make a PowerPoint presentation on their research project and submit a report on their research project written in the style of a journal in which their mentor publishes.

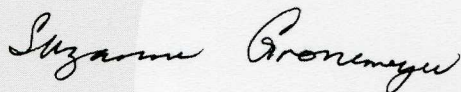
A primary goal of the program is to encourage students to pursue a career in cancer research, either as a laboratory-based scientist or a clinician scientist. Thus, qualified students with an interest in cancer research are particularly encouraged to apply.

All POE applicants must have an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.4 (on a 4.0 scale) in math and science (biology, chemistry, and physics) and at least a 3.4 overall. The 2009 class average undergraduate GPA was 3.8. In 2009, 59 students from 52 schools in 25 states and the District of Columbia were selected from some 400 applicants. POE participants must be a United States citizen, or a non-citizen national, or possess a visa permitting permanent residence in the United States (required by the funding agency). All must have completed at least their college sophomore year by the time they participate. While not required, prior research experience is a strong advantage. Medical students spend a minimum of 9 weeks in the program. The minimum tenure requirement for all others is 11 weeks (10 weeks for returning students). The salary is \$8 per hour. Pre-paid furnished group housing is provided for students coming from outside the metropolitan area.

The POE program home page <http://www.stjude.org/poe> contains links to the program application, which must be submitted online. The deadline for receipt of all 2010 application materials is February 1, 2010. Early application is highly recommended. Members of under-represented ethnic minority groups and women are particularly encouraged to apply, since one of our major long-term program goals is to increase the diversity of persons engaged in oncology research and practice. Our NIH/NCI-funded Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) Program, which runs in parallel with the POE program, provides salary support for additional undergraduate under-represented minority participants who agree to participate for two summers.

The POE 2010 program announcement is enclosed. I would appreciate it very much if you would inform your students about this outstanding opportunity. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Suzanne Gronemeyer, PhD, Director,
Pediatric Oncology Education (POE) Program and
Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) Program
Associate Director, Academic Programs
Mail Stop 304, Room DP038
Email: suzanne.gronemeyer@stjude.org
Phone: 901-595-2488

<http://www.stjude.org/poe>
<http://www.stjude.org/Gronemeyer>