

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE PEORIA

**Carrie M. Craig Fellowship for
Medical Student Summer Research 2023**

The purpose of the Carrie M. Craig medical student summer research fellowship program is to enable medical students who are interested in research to conduct projects during the summer months under the guidance of faculty on the Peoria campus of the University of Illinois College of Medicine (UICOMP). Students with no prior research experience are especially encouraged to apply.

Students are highly encouraged to find a research mentor who would be willing to supervise their summer research project. The mentor should also be willing to partially or fully fund the summer research project through this/her affiliated department. If a student is unable to find a research mentor, the Craig Fellows selection committee will utilize information provided on the "Intent to Apply" submission to facilitate connections with research mentors and student applicants. Interested research mentors will review student CVs and support those whose research interests align with the research of their lab, clinical research or other areas of interest including simulation.

Craig fellows are required to submit abstracts for UICOMP Research Day in the Spring of 2024. In addition, all Craig fellows must submit a final written report summarizing their findings. The research mentor will ensure fulfillment of all the requirements of this fellowship including submission of the abstract and final written report. Students must apply for Craig fellowships on the campus where their research will take place even if it differs from the campus where they are assigned to for the curriculum. Students must choose a research mentor that has a faculty appointment with UICOMP.

Eligibility: UICOMP students only (MD/PhD students are not eligible)

Only students who are academically eligible will be considered for a Craig fellowship. Students who have more than one unmet requirement at the time of application are ineligible. Students may only participate in one summer fellowship program. Students must be active and not on a leave of absence.

Application w/CV Deadline: Friday, March 10, 2023, 5PM CST

Students interested in applying should complete the top portion (Part 1) of the attached application form and send it with a CV, to Sandy Arreguin in the Office of Academic Affairs (sarreg@uic.edu) by 5PM CST on Friday, March 10, 2023. **Please note:** Late applications will not be accepted.

The Craig Scholars selection committee will review the application to make the final selection of the candidates. The Peoria campus will be able to support up to **seven** Craig Fellows.

Eligibility:	<u>Academically eligible UICOMP students</u>
Application Deadline:	<u>March 10, 2023</u>
Appointment Period:	<u>June 2023 - August 2023</u>
Appointment Status:	<u>Research Assistant</u>
Stipend:	<u>\$3,000 (\$1,500 from Dean's Office + \$1,500 from Sponsoring Department).</u> <i>Note: Fellows receive a monthly stipend of \$1,250 and a \$500 lump sum after receipt of the final report (see below).</i>

* *Anticipated Fellowship Announcement: April 2023*

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

I. All awardees will be required to submit a *final research report* signed by their research advisor by: 5PM CST on Monday, October 2, 2023

The *final research report* should include:

1. Summary of the significant findings
2. Summary of work that is in progress with an estimated completion date
3. List of abstracts/ publications that resulted from the project

Final research reports should be no longer than two pages, single spaced in length, and will be submitted directly to Sandy Arreguin in the Office of Academic Affairs, by email (sarreg@uic.edu) or delivered to Sandy in person to the Office of Academic Affairs at UICOMP.

Format for the *final research report* should include:

1. Project title with the year of your fellowship
2. Authors (student name, research mentor name and names of any other individuals involved in the project, if any.)
3. Research question addressed and its significance, in the study
4. Materials used and Methodologies followed
5. Results and their significance, Discussion or Conclusion
6. Statement about your intent to submit an abstract and present a poster at Research Day. If you feel you cannot, please explain why.
7. Mentor's signature

II. Fellows will also be required to submit an abstract for UICOMP Research Day in the Spring of 2024. Fellows are also encouraged to present their work at UICOM Research Day and/or at regional/national conferences, if the mentor determines this is appropriate.

III. Failure to submit these reports and participate in the either Research Day (without adequate reason) will result in no mention of the student's participation in this program on the Student's Medical Student Performance Evaluation for residencies.

CRAIG FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

THE APPLICATION – Must be typed or legibly printed and include:

1. The attached Application - Cover Page; to be completed by the Student (Part 1), the Research Mentor (Part 2) and the Department Business Manager (Part 3).
2. A research proposal of 3-4 pages in length followed by a bibliography (not included in page limits).
3. Your resume/CV
4. Include 1-2 paragraphs explaining why you are interested in doing a research project for your personal and professional development. If you have had any previous research experience, explain why this fellowship offers unique opportunities not afforded in your previous experience. *If you have not had prior research experience, please state this (students without research experience are encouraged to apply).*

RESEARCH PROPOSAL FORMAT

Describe your role in the proposed research project. Limit your response to 3-4 pages (single-spaced). You should also attach a bibliography list to your research proposal. Failure to comply with page limits or include all parts of the application will result in your proposal being administratively withdrawn.

Your Research Proposal should include:

1. **Cover Page:** title of proposal, your name, research mentor's name and their department name.
2. **Specific Aims:** a summary of the questions you will ask and the methods you will use.
3. **Background and Significance:** information to help the reviewer understand the context of the questions you are asking and why they are important.
4. **Experimental Methods and Anticipated Outcomes for each Specific Aim:** provide details about the methods you will use, how they will answer your questions, and what information you expect to obtain.
5. **Timeline:** provide a tentative plan stating when the different steps and goals of your proposal will be completed. The goals of your proposal should be met within the time of the fellowship.
6. **Program Mentorship:** (To be completed by Mentor/PI) - please describe the skills that the student will acquire with his/her work during the proposed Craig Fellowship. Additionally, please specify who will actually be supervising the student, i.e. the PI, fellow, other faculty member, etc., as well as the frequency of follow ups and whether the meeting will be in person, via phone, email, etc. or a combination.

The following review criteria will be used to judge proposals:

- a. Clear and testable hypothesis
- b. Design adequate to answer hypothesis
- c. Completed project will be publishable or suitable for presentation at a professional meeting
- d. Tasks at appropriate level for M1/M2 student
- e. Project can be completed within the time frame of the program
- f. Project provides a "learning experience" for the student:

APPLICATION deadline is 5PM CST on Friday, March 10, 2023 (typed or legibly printed).

If accepted as a Craig Fellow, the final revised RESEARCH PROPOSAL (for sponsored project) should be submitted by 5PM CST on Friday, MAY 19, 2023. **FORMAT:** Describe your role in the proposed research project. Limit your response to **2-3 pages (single-spaced)**. You should also attach a bibliography list to your research proposal.

For questions related to the Craig Fellowship, or for assistance with the submission process, please reach out to either Dr. Anamika Sengupta (anamikas@uic.edu) or Sandy Arreguin (sarreg@uic.edu).

Below is a sample research proposal. Applicants are strongly encouraged to use this format when submitting their own research proposals. If applicants would like help preparing their research proposal, they are encouraged to reach out to Dr. Sarah Donohue in Department of Research Services as soon as possible (sed03@uic.edu).

The Role of XYZ in Breast Cancer
Applicant: Susan Jones
Sponsor: Dr. Joseph Smith
Department: Medicine

Specific Aims (1/2 page)

Recent studies in mice have implicated XYZ in promoting several types of cancer including breast cancer. In particular, Jackson et al. demonstrated..... I will study the impact of knocking down the XYZ protein in the human breast cancer cell line, AAA. State a hypothesis. I hypothesize that decreasing XYZ expression in human breast cancer cells will inhibit both their growth and motility. My specific aims are:

Aim I. Knockdown XYZ in AAA cells. Briefly describe method (siRNA?) and how you will determine whether the expression of XYZ is decreased or eliminated. 2-3 sentences.

Aim II. Test the impact of XYZ knockdown on AAA cell growth and motility. Briefly describe how you will evaluate impact on cell growth and assay for changes in motility. 2-3 sentences.

Background and Significance (1 page)

Describe what XYZ is and what evidence has been gathered suggesting that it is involved in breast cancer. Describe what the AAA cells are and why they are a good model. What common assays exist for evaluating cancer cells? Finally, why is this research and the anticipated outcomes significant?

Experimental Methods and Anticipated Outcomes (1.5 pages)

Aim I. Knockdown XYZ in AAA human breast cancer cells. Provide experimental details and what you will expect to see, and if the method does not work, an alternative approach.

Aim II. Test the impact of XYZ knockdown on AAA cell growth and motility. Provide experimental details and what you will expect to see, and if the method does not work, an alternative approach.

**APPLICATION – COVER PAGE
CARRIE M. CRAIG FELLOWSHIP FOR
MEDICAL STUDENT SUMMER RESEARCH 2023
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE - PEORIA**

Applications must be typed or legibly printed. Parts I and II, must be completed by the student and their Research Advisor. Please submit completed application, research proposal, resume/CV and 1-2 paragraphs to Sandy Arreguin at sarreg@uic.edu

(Part I) Student Information

NAME: _____ SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

CLASS: _____ PHONE #: _____ E-MAIL: _____

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(Part II) Research Advisor's Statement

I have reviewed the attached proposal and consider it feasible and worthwhile. I have an active laboratory and am able to provide space for the student's research project. **I will help the student prepare and submit an abstract for the UICOM or UICOMP Research Day and ensure that the student fulfills all requirements of this fellowship including the final summary.**

Printed Name of Research Advisor

Department of Research Advisor

Signature of Research Advisor

Phone number

E-mail address

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(Part III) Business Manager (This section must be completed by the department's designated Business Manager)

Printed Name of Dept. Business Manager

Source of Advisor's Funds (Include C-FOAP #)

Signature of Dept. Business Manager

Phone number

E-mail address

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 **OFFICE USE ONLY**

- Students who have **more than one** unmet requirement at time of application are ineligible.
- Students who do have one retake exam during summer are expected to fully participate in the Craig fellowship program and meet requirements.
- Students may only participate in one summer fellowship program.
- Students must be active and not on a leave of absence.

The above named student: **IS** academically eligible. **IS NOT** academically eligible.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs