

Program Dates 2017:
June 19, 2017 - August 4, 2017

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THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE
IS AS FOLLOWS:
DEADLINE — February 1, 2017

1. **No separate application form is required.**
All parts of the application do not have to be submitted at once.
2. **Transcript/Academic Record:**
We require an official transcript giving all your grades, including those of the first semester of the junior year, to be mailed directly from each college or university you have attended.
3. **Letters of Recommendation:**
We require two letters of recommendation:
 - a.) A letter from your college premedical advisor or one member of your science faculty who has taught you one course, and who will give us a statement of your motivation and potential for medical and scientific studies.
 - b.) A letter of recommendation from a source outside of your college community where you have worked on issues with underserved populations within the USA.
4. **Essay:**
Submit a one-page essay outlining something about yourself, how you developed an interest in a medical career, and your interest in working with underserved populations.
5. **Applicant Information:**
Submit a resume that will include your permanent and current mailing addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail address. Applicants must provide proof of U.S. Citizenship or permanent resident visa status.
6. **Mail To:**
Elizabeth A. Wilson-Anstey, Ed.D.
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
Director, Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program
Weill Cornell Medicine
445 East 69th Street, Room 110
New York, NY 10021
Phone: (212) 746-1057

Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program-2016



Web Address: <http://www.med.cornell.edu/education/programs>



**Weill Cornell
Medicine**
Medical College



49 Years of Excellence

2017

The **T**Travelers **S**Summer **R**Research **F**Fellowship Program

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For Premedical
Students

TravelersGroup 



**Weill Cornell
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It is our good fortune to have in the United States the best of medical facilities and constant state of the art research, providing ongoing advancement of knowledge and development of new treatment approaches. Yet, we face the challenge of addressing major gaps in research, health care, preventive measures, health policy, and bridging cultural barriers for a large segment of our population who are from traditionally underserved groups. The Institute of Medicine issued a report, *Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Healthcare*, highlighting the severity of disparities in health care among racial and ethnic minorities. Among its specific recommendations is increasing the number of minorities represented in the health professions. Addressing these disparities is one of the highest priorities in U.S. medicine.

Of critical importance in addressing such disparities is training a racially and ethnically diverse physician work force. Linnie M. Golightly, M.D., Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion states: "At WCM we strive to ensure an inclusive community where our many distinct voices can be expressed and heard, a community in which all can thrive in the pursuit of educational, clinical and scientific medical excellence. We, therefore, seek students from a wide range of backgrounds that will enrich our community and ultimately the broader world of physicians and scientist to which we belong." The presence of diversity among medical students becomes a critical mutual education process for all medical students, faculty, and administrators. Minority students become the physicians who we need to assist the field of medicine in addressing our major disparities in health care. Our Medical College and the Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program has been and remains an essential part of that effort.

Identifying potential medical students who have a major interest in the medical problems of the underserved is critical. Every effort must be made to include among our medical student body students who have had life experience with a range of issues affecting diverse groups, including minorities and the underserved, who have demonstrated direct interest in such issues via activity with various student organizations that target minority issues, and have the career ambition to address the problems of the medically underserved.

The Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program is designed to give 25 premedical students deeper insights into the field of medicine, including issues that greatly affect the health of traditionally underserved groups. Through the experiences of laboratory or clinical research, the student learns how one pursues a

specific research problem under the supervision of a faculty member, thus providing an early education into basic research techniques that could be applicable to any area of medicine. A lecture series explores topics in cardiovascular physiology, exposing the students to basic science concepts that are relevant to a more specific understanding of hypertension and cardiovascular disease, both of which are major problems in minority communities. The summer fellows attend a series of talks by minority physicians about various medical specialties, addressing issues of concern in these physician's daily work plus views of the bigger picture in health care to minority communities. Shadowing physicians provide further exposure to the clinical facets of medicine. Students in the summer program receive information on the medical school admissions process, and counseling on financial planning for medical school and how to examine the financial aid package.

The Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program is directed by Elizabeth A. Wilson-Anstey, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs. Since 1976, Dean Wilson-Anstey has helped develop and run the summer research program. She is an active member of the Admissions Committee.

Students eligible for the program:

- must be at least in their junior year of college
- must be declared premed students who have completed two semesters of biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, and one semester of physics. Preference is given to students with a grade point average of B or above
- must have a demonstrated commitment to working on issues with underserved populations within the USA
- must be from one or more of the following groups that are underrepresented in medicine
 - Individuals from racial and ethnic groups shown to be underrepresented in biomedical research: Blacks or African Americans, Hispanics or Latinos, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders
 - Individuals from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds
 - Individuals with disabilities (those with a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities)
- must be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident



T-SRF Alumni at 2016 Welcome Reception

Last summer's fellows came from a wide range of institutions:

- *Brandeis University*
- *Coe College*
- *Columbia University*
- *Cornell University*
- *Denison University*
- *Emory University*
- *Florida International University*
- *Fordham University*
- *Johns Hopkins University*
- *Lincoln University*
- *New York University*
- *Quinnipiac University*
- *Smith College*
- *Spelman College*
- *St. John's University*
- *University of Arkansas at Monticello*
- *University of California, Santa Cruz*
- *University of Connecticut*
- *University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras*
- *Villanova University*
- *The University of Chicago*
- *The University of Scranton*

Students receive a \$140.00 a week cost-of-living allowance and are housed rent-free in the dormitory for medical students, but are required to pay for their meals and other living expenses. Travel expenses are paid for students that live some distance from New York.