

Thank you for your interest in the Undergraduate Student Scholars Program in the NIH Center for Molecular Studies in Digestive and Liver Diseases at the University of Pennsylvania, an organized program of summer lectures and presentations combined with basic research experience in the laboratory of an expert investigator. This program is open to students from the University of Pennsylvania as well as outside of the university, and **the curriculum is designed specifically for undergraduate students with an interest in biomedical research, with the eventual goal of MD, PhD, or MD-PhD degrees.**

During the program, students attend weekly seminars on introductory topics in biomedical research. At the end of the course, all participants present their research to members of the Center for Molecular Studies in Digestive and Liver Disease in a focused seminar and receive a certificate recognizing their completion of the program. For the research experience, students are paired with individual mentors. The research program is thus individualized to each student and each laboratory. Research interests of program faculty are available at <http://www.ups.upenn.edu/moleculr/Investigators/index.shtml>

Seminar and research experiences are supplemented by social events and activities, including an end-of-summer dinner featuring all students and mentors. Thus, students develop strong and lasting relationships with their fellow students, with members of the research laboratories, and with their mentors. Students receive a competitive stipend for their participation in the 10-week program, and on-campus housing is available

The application is available on-line at <http://www.med.upenn.edu/molecular/undergrad.shtml> or may be obtained by contacting the address below:

Undergraduate Student Scholars Program  
Gastroenterology Division  
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
600 Clinical Research Building  
415 Curie Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6140  
Email: [ussp@mail.med.upenn.edu](mailto:ussp@mail.med.upenn.edu)

**All application materials must be received by February 15, 2012.** Applications from women and members of underrepresented minorities are strongly encouraged. **Students accepted into the program must be eligible to work in the United States.**

After reviewing the applications, the selections committee will arrange an interview for selected applicants with a proposed mentor. The interview is the final component of the application and ensures that the personality, goals, and interests of the applicant are compatible with those of the preceptor.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely yours,  
Jonathan Katz, M.D.



Optional Personal Data:

This information is not required, but it will help the Undergraduate Student Scholars Program assess the impact of its awards. If you decline to provide this information, it will in no way affect consideration of your application. The data will be treated confidentially and is used for statistical purposes only.

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex/Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_

Race and/or Ethnic origin:

\_\_\_\_\_ American Indian/Alaska-Hawaii Native

\_\_\_\_\_ Black or African American

\_\_\_\_\_ Asian

\_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic or Latino

\_\_\_\_\_ White

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Please include the following on separate pages:**

1. Letter of recommendation (1) from Dean or college professor mailed directly to the course director at the address below. **Letters from faculty in the physical or biological sciences are strongly encouraged.**
2. If applicable, at least 1 letter of recommendation from a prior research mentor.
3. Official college transcript
4. Personal statement (up to 1 page) which should address the following:
  - I. Describe your background and any prior research experience.
  - II. What are your objectives through participation in this program?
  - III. What are your long-term goals in biomedical research?

Mail letters of recommendation and completed applications to:

Kalai Herko  
Administrative Assistant, Undergraduate Student Scholars Program  
University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine  
600 Clinical Research Building  
415 Curie Boulevard  
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6140

Email: [ussp@mail.med.upenn.edu](mailto:ussp@mail.med.upenn.edu)

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