Paid Summer Internships in Health Services Research

The University of Pennsylvania’s Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics (LDI) offers paid summer internships for underrepresented minority undergraduates, or any other undergrads interested in exploring the field of health services research.

LDI is one of the country’s largest health services research centers coordinating the work of more than 200 senior fellows investigating the medical, economic, and social issues that influence how health care is organized, financed, managed, and delivered across the U.S.

The LDI Summer Undergraduate Minority Research (SUMR) program pairs students with senior fellows to work on real research projects throughout the three-month duration of the course. Those mentors are also faculty members at Penn Medicine, The Wharton School, Penn Dental and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Designed to provide an immersive experience with the disciplines and culture of the academic health services research community, the program particularly encourages candidates from minority groups that are underrepresented in this field (African-American, Hispanic/Latino, Native American, Pacific Islander) to apply.

A committee of Penn faculty selects each year’s SUMR scholars from the highly competitive applicant pool.

Eligibility
Program participants should have an interest in health care and strong quantitative skills. Prospective participants do not have to make a commitment in advance to attend graduate school in order to be accepted into the program, but an academic or research career should be something they might consider.

What Do SUMR Scholars Do?
- Work with Penn faculty mentors on one or two health services research projects of the student’s choice
- Gain practical advice about graduate school opportunities and assistance with the graduate school application process, including a GRE prep program
- Attend weekly lunch meetings with Penn faculty to discuss their projects and learn more about the broad range of health services research in which Penn faculty are engaged
- Present a final presentation on mentored health services research project(s) at the SUMR Research Symposium
- Attend the AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting as a group, all expenses paid
- Take part in various extracurricular activities/social functions sponsored by the SUMR program

To Apply
Visit the SUMR website at http://ldi.upenn.edu/sumr/application
Deadline February 1

For More Information
Contact the Program Director, Joanne Levy, MBA, at levy@wharton.upenn.edu.