Project LINK (Leaders In New Knowledge) CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2013

A research training program for high school/undergraduate students from underrepresented populations in cancer research

Deadline to Apply Sept. 16, 2013

What is Project LINK?

Project LINK (<u>L</u>eaders <u>In New Knowledge</u>), is a competitive research training program designed to expose aspiring underrepresented high school and undergraduate students to the excitement of science and a cancer research career. It provides mentored opportunities for trainees in a selected area of research such as immunology, cell biology, drug discovery, biostatistics, bioinformatics, mathematical oncology, clinical investigations, health outcomes and behavior, community outreach, or epidemiology.

Project LINK is part of the National Cancer Institute's **C**ontinuing **U**mbrella of **R**esearch **E**xperiences (CURE): http://crchd.cancer.gov/diversity/cure-overview.html. The success of research designed to reduce the disproportionate burden of cancer incidence and mortality in many racial/ethnic groups will depend substantially on the presence of a cadre of culturally sensitive, well-trained scientists from diverse backgrounds. Underrepresented individuals are not limited to racial and ethnic minorities but may also include individuals determined underrepresented in cancer research by the institution (e.g. first generation college). Project LINK applicants should:

- ☑ Have a GPA of 3.5
- ☑ Demonstrate a high aptitude and interest in science
- ☑ Be willing to commit and devote two years to the LINK training program
- ☑ Be a US citizen or permanent resident
- ✓ For high school applicants, trainees must be junior level and above.

What is involved in Project LINK?

Trainees are matched with a Moffitt scientist/mentor and expected to commit approximately 10-15 hours per week during the school year and full-time during the summer months. Trainees have multiple opportunities to take part in professional development, training and community outreach events. Attendance at scientific lectures and LINK's monthly Fireside Chat is required. A stipend is provided.

How do I apply?

To obtain an application, visit our web site at http://www.moffitt.org/link or call the LINK Training office at Moffitt Cancer Center by calling Ms. Cindy Burcham at (813) 745-6031 or email cindy.burcham@moffitt.org. A complete application package consists of the following:

- ☑ Completed application form
- ☑ Three letters of recommendation
- ☑ One page essay describing interest in a cancer research career
- ☑ Most recent transcripts (unofficial is acceptable)

Applications are reviewed in September and the LINK program begins in October 2013.



