

Program Dates 2022:
June 20, 2022 – August 5, 2022
DEADLINE: February 1, 2022



**Weill Cornell
Medicine
Medical College**

2022

How to Apply

1. Create an account at <http://bit.ly/t-srf>.
2. Select **Summer 2022** in the **Program Plans** pop-up window.
3. Select the **Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program** to begin the application process.
4. Before submitting materials in the other tabs, go to the **My Application** tab and select **Program Materials** for the complete instructions and to answer the supplemental questions.

Questions?

Joy D. Howell, M.D., FAAP, FCCM.

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Director, Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program

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Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program 2019



Clinical Research; Dalio Institute of Cardiovascular Imaging,
Dr. Jessica Peña (T-SRF '97)



Basic science research; Kreek Lab at Rockefeller University



T-SRF 2019 Participants and Program Assistants

54 years of excellence

The Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program

For Premedical
Students

TRAVELERS 



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"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in healthcare is the most shocking and inhumane."

It was in March of 1966 that the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King made this statement. Over 54 years later, the manner in which COVID-19 has disproportionately impacted communities of color highlights the fact that insufficient progress has been made addressing longstanding healthcare disparities. Since the late 1970's when the federal government began stratifying health outcomes by race and ethnicity, healthcare disparities have been noted. These disparities have been characterized as extensive, pervasive and persistent. In 2002, the Institute of Medicine issued a publication entitled Unequal Care, exploring the contributors to these healthcare disparities and offering mitigation strategies. Among the recommendations was diversification of the US healthcare workforce. In fact, in light of the shifting demographics in America, bringing diversity to the workforce was characterized as being in the nation's compelling interests.

Nearly 20 years have passed since these publications yet certain racial and ethnic groups remain underrepresented in the US healthcare workforce. Dr. Joy Howell, who serves as Assistant Dean of Diversity and Student Life of Weill Cornell Medicine believes that "Medical education is a public good and we have a responsibility to cultivate a diverse physician workforce that will deliver outstanding, culturally sensitive care to every segment of our society". The Travelers Summer Research Fellowship is an enduring and exceptional program that is tangibly advancing this cause.

Identifying potential medical students who have a serious interest in the addressing the healthcare needs of the underserved is critical. Every effort must be made to include among our medical student body individuals from minority, disadvantaged and underserved backgrounds, who have had a diverse range of life experiences, demonstrable engagement in various student organizations addressing minority issues, and deeply committed to addressing the healthcare disparities.

The Travelers Summer Research Fellowship Program is designed to give 25 premedical students

meaningful insights into the field of medicine, with a focus on conditions that greatly affect the health of traditionally underserved populations. By engaging in laboratory or clinical research, under the supervision of a faculty member, the TSRF participants learn how to investigate a specific research question. Participants are thereby provided with a research training experience allowing them to acquire investigative techniques that can be later applied as they pursue their medical education. The didactic curriculum has several themes. There is content delivery around common public health issues including healthcare for the under and uninsured; healthcare disparities; research basics; a financial aid presentation and practical advice from medical students on the medical school application process and preparing for the MCAT. In addition to these, participants engage with a wide variety of physicians in career panel discussions including primary care, pediatrics, neurology, ophthalmology, obstetrics and gynecology, surgery, radiology, emergency medicine and internal medicine. The highlight of the curriculum is a panel discussion populated by diversity and admissions deans from NY medical schools addressing the question "What are medical schools looking for?"

Prior to 2021, the program also provided participants with opportunities to shadow physicians thereby provide further exposure and insights into the many facets of clinical medicine.

Dr. Howell is a longstanding faculty member at WCM. A committed clinician educator, she served as the Program Director for the Pediatric Critical Care Medicine Fellowship from 2005 through 2020 when she was appointed as Assistant Dean of Diversity and Student Life. She is deeply committed to advancing the diversification of the US healthcare workforce.



Attending lectures on health care

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

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

Amherst College	Status University of New York at New Paltz
Brown University	University of California at Berkeley
Carleton College	University of California at Los Angeles
Columbia University	University of Houston
Cornell University	University of Miami
Fairleigh Dickinson University - Florham	University of Michigan at Ann Arbor
Fordham University	University of Notre Dame
Georgia State University	University of Puerto Rico at Arcebo
Hampton University	University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras
Howard University	University of Rochester
Hunter College, City University of New York	Vassar College
Macalester College	Wagner College
Monclair State University	
Saint Francis College	
Scripps College	
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale	

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.