

The Beckman Scholars Program at the University of Maryland 2016-2017

The Beckman Scholar Program is a two-year program that provides research support for outstanding undergraduate students majoring in Chemistry and Biochemistry. Scholars work with faculty mentors for 15 months of research and are provided the following:

- Summer funding in the amount of \$6,800 for each of two consecutive summers
- Academic year funding of \$4,600 for the 2016-2017 academic year
- Supplies and travel funding amounting to \$2,800
- Travel expenses to the Beckman Scholars Conferences in 2016 and 2017

Application Information

The program is open to freshmen and sophomore majors who are US citizens and have a minimum GPA of 3.5. There are 11 approved faculty mentors for the program: Drs. Jeff Davis, John Fourkas, David Fushman, Amy Mullin, Zhihong Nie, Garyk Papoian, Paul Paukstelis, Janice Reutt-Robey, Efrain Rodriguez, Andre Vedernikov, and Yu-Huang Wang. Interested students should prepare their application in consultation with one of the faculty mentors.

Program activities

- A minimum of 15 consecutive months of intensive scientific training in a faculty mentor's research laboratory, beginning in the summer of 2016
- Minimum 10 hours per week during one academic year and full-time over two, ten week-long summer sessions
- Presentation of at least one poster or talk at an advanced undergraduate scientific symposium in addition to the Beckman Symposium
- A satisfactory mid-year progress review by the Beckman Scholars Steering Committee
- Participation in the annual undergraduate research workshop
- All scholars attend the Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation's Beckman Scholars Research Symposium in their first and second summer, held in August in Irvine, California.

Application process

Students applications include 1) a one-page essay on your professional goals, 2) a two-page research proposal (references are not included in the 2-page limit), 3) an academic transcript (unofficial is ok) and 4) a list of recommendation letter writers. These materials should be submitted as a single pdf file and sent by email to cclark4@umd.edu. All materials must be received by **Thursday April 7** at 5 pm (EST).

Students arrange for **three letters of sponsorship**: one letter from the faculty research mentor and two letters of recommendation from faculty members acquainted with student's lecture and laboratory performance in Chemistry and Biochemistry. Faculty letters are sent directly (via email to cclark4@umd.edu) by faculty recommenders. Faculty mentors should address their role in the proposal preparation. Letters are due **Friday April 8** by 5 pm (EST).

Questions? Contact Professor Amy Mullin, mullin@umd.edu