

MEDICAL STUDENT SUMMER PROGRAM (MSSP) AY 2025-2026

Program structure -- common elements

The MSSP will provide 4 weeks of stipend (up to \$2000) for 95 UMass Chan SOM medical students to work on a project with a UMass Chan faculty member (called PI moving forward).

- If the PI wishes more time and can secure separate funding, the PI may extend the work.
- The same PI may work with more than one student, each for 4 weeks (or longer, again if the PI can secure additional funds)
- Students arrange their specific availability with the PI, however, the experience must occur between June 25 and August 15

OPTION 1 – PI initiated

1. The PI will submit a project to the OUME using the link: [Complete the Survey](#) by the end of January 16th, 2026
2. All projects submitted by the PI will be posted on the OUME webpage by **January 19th**. <https://www.umassmed.edu/oume/student-resources/research-and-service-opportunities/>
3. Students will be responsible for contacting the PI if interested in the posted project.
4. **PI will select a student** and email the student and the program coordinator (Mirela Skaka) noting the number of weeks for the experience (4-8, recall that the stipend for 4 weeks is covered by the OUME).

OPTION 2 – student-initiated

1. Students can reach out to faculty who they are interested in working with, asking if they might be able to provide a summer experience or with a specific project idea
2. If the faculty member agrees, the student will email the PI copying the program coordinator (Mirela Skaka) who will provide a form to collect additional information and confirm the length of the experience.

OUME will provide a sample letter students can adapt to reach out to PIs: [student-intro-letter-sample-to-find-a-pi.docx \(live.com\)](#)

NOTE:

- All students and PIs will participate in scheduled small group sessions during the summer.
- The poster session will be held in August after the start of the semester and all students must participate as part of the program. PI's are encouraged to attend.