PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

At Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine (SSOM) we seek to foster a diverse and inclusive community of physicians who are equipped to address complex problems in health and healthcare. As such, ASPIRE is designed to prepare and support pre-medical students who want to pursue a career in medicine and have a desire to advocate for underserved communities. During the five week program, students are exposed to a comprehensive curriculum that integrates academic/science lectures, shadowing opportunities, professional development skills/tools, and a community service project that advances health equity. Our distinct summer experience not only provides students with a competitive edge for medical school but also exposes participants to innovative solutions for addressing health disparities.

The program is designed for individuals who will enrich the diversity of our medical student community and who demonstrate a commitment to lifelong service in underserved communities. It is our hope that program participants will exemplify the principles learned in the program through their future choices in medical education and practice.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be an AMCAS applicant for the 2016 Entering Class (CANNOT be in the application cycle for the 2015 Entering Class)
- Must take/re-take the MCAT no later than May 2015 (before program begins)
- United States citizenship, permanent resident, or DACA eligible
- Strong academic record
- Commitment to a career in medicine
- Commitment to service in underserved communities
- Potential to enrich the diversity of the medical student community
- Applicants from underrepresented backgrounds encourage to apply

TIME COMMITMENT

The program begins on Sunday, June 7, 2015 and ends on Friday, July 10, 2015. Participants may not be enrolled in or committed to any other programs, employment, activities, events, or research, and should anticipate some evening and weekend activities.

SUPPORT

- Participants receive a $1,200 stipend.
- Participants receive a meal card, which will help defray the cost of lunch expenses.
- Shared housing at a local university will be available to all participants.
- Lab coats, books, supplies and parking at Loyola will be provided at no cost.
- Participants can elect to pay a reduced rate to our state-of-the-art fitness center for the duration of the program.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Completed online application: https://stritch.wufoo.com/forms/aspire-2015-application/
- Resume - uploaded with online application, or emailed/mailed
- Personal statement - uploaded with online application, or emailed/mailed
- Official transcripts - submitted directly from the institution by email or mail. (Include most recent undergraduate and any graduate school or post bacc program transcripts, with grades through December 2014)
- Two recommendation letters - from those familiar with your academic performance and/or your interest in medicine, health disparities, or service. Letters should be on company letterhead and can be submitted directly from the recommender by email or mail from the applicant in a sealed envelope.
- MCAT scores - by mail or email (if you have previously taken the MCAT within the last four years). If you are taking or retaking in 2015, scores will be requested only if you are accepted to the program.
- Applications must be received electronically or postmarked by January 30, 2015.

ASPIRE
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