Frequently Asked Questions regarding the Medical Student Research Program and Discovery Pathways

1. Do I have to join Discovery Pathways to participate in the 10 week Summer MSRP?
   Answer- No, you can do the Summer MSRP and not join a Discovery Pathways Track.

2. Do I have to participate in the 10 week Summer MSRP to join a Discovery Pathways Track?
   Answer- Some tracks require participation in the MSRP.

3. How do I join a Discovery Pathways Track?
   Answer- Complete the application form on the Discovery Pathways Website under Track Descriptions: http://discovery.education.med.ufl.edu/discovery-tracks/

4. How do I join the Summer MSRP?
   Answer – To join the MSRP you must submit the Project Proposal and the other required documents listed under on the Discovery Pathways website: http://discovery.education.med.ufl.edu/research-track/msrp/

5. Will MSRP participants receive funding for the 10-week Summer Research Program in Discovery Pathways?
   Answer - Yes, the MSRP will provide a scholarship in the amount of $2000 to every student for the 10-weeks of participation in the MSRP program. Some projects may be selected for special funding from the American Heart Association and the NIH.

6. How do I earn distinction in research on my diploma?
   Answer: a) fulfill the requirements listed on the Discovery Pathways website under “About the Program”.

7. How do I know if I get accepted into the MSRP?
   Answer – After you submit your final proposal, the MSRP committee will review your project and if it’s acceptable, you will receive an acceptance letter.

8. What do I do if I can’t find a project on the website and/or a mentor?
   Answer- 1) If you can’t find a project and/or a mentor, you can search the website of the department you are interested in and ask faculty if they have any projects or if they would like to be your mentor. 2) Contact the MSRP office for guidance on selecting a project and/or mentor. 3) Contact one of the TRACK leaders to help develop a project not on the website

9. Can I complete my project at another Institution?
   Answer – Yes, you can complete your project at another institution, however, you must still have a UF Mentor to oversee the project proposal, etc.
10. Can I develop a project of my own?
   Answer – Yes, you can. You must still have a faculty mentor.

11. How do I get IRB/IACUC approval or get added to a project that already has IRB approval?
   Answer – One of your mentor’s duties is to submit a protocol for IRB/ IACUC approval or to submit Appendix A to add you to the project that’s already approved.

12. What is the difference between IRB-01 and IRB-02?
   Answer - IRB-01 is responsible for reviewing and monitoring research involving human subjects that is typically conducted on the Health Sciences Center campus of the University of Florida.
   IRB-02 is responsible for reviewing and monitoring a subset of the research studies with human subjects that is typically focused on behavioral/non-medical topics.
   Examples are research studies that involve: behavioral observations/recordings, non-invasive physiological recordings, analysis of documents that were previously gathered for non-research purposes, evaluation of behavioral/social interventions or manipulations, educational assessments, interviews, surveys, cognitive tests, and taste/food evaluations of wholesome food within FDA regulations. The IRB02 can review research conducted by investigators working within all colleges of the University of Florida, including the UF Main Campus, UF Health Science Center, Shands HealthCare, Inc., and the Brain Institute. The IRB02 cannot review human subjects research involving invasive biological or medical techniques, HIPAA-protected personal health information, experimental medications, or experimental treatment of patient populations or research involving the use of the North Florida/South Georgia VA Health Systems facilities, staff or patients. These protocols are reviewed by the other University of Florida IRBs.

13. Do I have to complete HIPAA for Researchers?
   Answer – Yes, everyone participating in MSRP is required to complete HIPAA for Researchers through MYUFL.

14. Do I have to present a poster?
   Answer – Yes, one of the requirements of the 10 week Summer MSRP is to present a poster at Medical Student Research Day.

15. How do I create a poster if I don’t complete the project in time for Medical Student Research Day?
   Answer – If you do not complete the specific aims of your project during the 10-week summer program, you can continue to work with your faculty mentor during the fall
semester of your second year to produce sufficient results to present a poster in the spring semester of your second year. Posters should describe the background for the project, the hypothesis, specific aims and methods used to test the hypothesis, the results that were generated and any interpretations of the new results for the field. However, posters can also include descriptions of problems that were encountered in completing the project and solutions to overcome those problems.

16. Will medical students be enrolled in a medical school elective to participate in the MSRP?
Answer - Yes, medical students will be enrolled in and receive academic credit for the summer research that will appear on your transcript. No additional tuition is paid because of the rules for block tuition

(updated 9/17/14)