Summer Scholars Research Program FAQs

Virtual Program

1. What will my schedule look like while I am in the program?

Students will participate in weekly lectures that will occur on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Students will also attend weekly journal club meetings (see question 3), small groups (see question 4), and virtual social events that will be scheduled throughout the program.

The SSRP program coordinator will send weekly e-mails with events, seminars, workshops, or lectures that may further supplement your education while in the program. These events are NOT mandatory. Previous examples of these events include the weekly Winship Grand Rounds Lectures and the Surgical Grand Rounds Lectures.

All SSRP events will be during regular business hours (Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM) unless otherwise noted.

2. Will I still complete a research project for a virtual SSRP?

Yes, Summer Scholars Research Program students will still complete a research project. The type of project will vary depending on each student’s mentors. See the SSRP website for example projects from previous years.

During the Final Symposium (see question 7), students will give an oral presentation on their research and will be expected to create a PowerPoint presentation and field questions from peers, the program directors, and Winship faculty and staff in attendance.

3. What are the Journal Club meetings?

Each week students will participate in a weekly journal club meeting where a group of their peers will present on a seminal paper in oncology research. Students will be placed in groups of 3-5 before the program begins and each group will be assigned a research paper. The schedule for each group’s presentation will be released during the first week of the program.

Students will be expected to arrange to meet with their group to review the research paper and create a presentation for the journal club meeting. The ultimate goal of the presentation should be to demonstrate why the paper is important, how it has impacted clinical care, and facilitate a discussion with your peers.

4. What are the Small Group meetings?

Small Groups are the virtual equivalent of events and fieldtrips. These will be scheduled throughout the program to supplement the students learning, and includes a meeting with cancer survivors, lectures from cancer specialists at the Georgia Institute of Technology, a meeting with an admissions dean from the Emory School of Medicine and more!

5. Who are the guest lecturers?

Guest lecturers are a variety of specialists who work in oncology, ranging from gastroenterologists to basic scientists to biostatisticians. The goal of the lectures is to expand a student’s idea of cancer research and expose students to the many jobs that those interested in the field of oncology can possess.
6. How do I prepare for the lectures?

Before each lecture, students will receive background information on the guest lecturer and should come to the meeting prepared to be engaged and ask questions. Some lecturers will assign required readings prior to their lecture that will help students better digest their topic. Students are expected to complete all reading prior to the lecture date.

7. What is the Final Symposium?

The Final Symposium is the culmination of all the hard work students have done throughout the summer. Students will present a 10-minute oral presentation on their individual research projects for their fellow students and Winship faculty members.

For the virtual program, the symposium is split into two days. Students will be expected to attend both days of the symposium, including the day they are not presenting.

8. When is the Final Symposium?

The Final Symposium is held on the last two days of the program.

9. What prior training do I need to complete my project?

Students do not need any prior training to participate in the program.

10. Can parents and family attend the Final Symposium?

Yes, we encourage students to invite their parents and family to attend, as well as science teachers or other application references.