



Participation Options for Faculty and Students

The Pathways to Medicine scholarship is a program for up to five high school students per year who enter the University of Calgary and whose ultimate career interests lay in the pursuit of medicine. It is specifically geared to students from low income backgrounds, with a particular interest in students from indigenous and rural backgrounds. The scholarship is part of a larger enrichment program which is intended to support the recipients and assist them, to the best of our ability, to develop the skills and attributes that we seek in successful MD applicants. Upon completion of the program, participants are guaranteed admission to the MD program, assuming that certain milestones have been met along the way. For more details on the program itself, please see <http://cumming.ucalgary.ca/pathways>

In addition to financial support, Pathways Scholars are provided with an enrichment program consisting of a monthly seminar series, formal mentorship opportunities, as well as clinical and educational shadowing. As we have received many inquiries from individuals interested in participating in the enrichment program, we have created this guide to the different opportunities available.

1. Faculty Mentorship

Each of the scholars will be assigned a faculty member to act in the role of formal mentor. The relationship can be extended on an annual basis by mutual agreement if it continues to meet the needs of both the student and the mentor. The expectation is that mentors will meet with the student a minimum of 4 times during the year, provide advice on personal, professional and academic development, and assist the student in identifying appropriate extra-curricular activities to suit their interests. Mentors need not be MD's but must hold a faculty appointment (either GFT or clinical) within the Cumming School of Medicine. To get a sense of what is expected, prospective mentors are referred to the materials of the O'Brien Institute's mentorship program (<https://obrieniph.ucalgary.ca/about-institute/mentorship>). Mentors will be chosen based on our ability to match the needs of the individual program participants, so we very much appreciate faculty members' willingness to act in this capacity even if we are not able to use every willing faculty member each and every year.

2. Clinical Shadowing

All the scholars will, by mid-November, have completed the necessary documentation and privacy training in order to shadow clinically within AHS. They are generally keen to gain some experience within the health care system, and unlike many traditional MD applicants, come from families without health care professionals who can assist them in setting up these kinds of experiences. Shadowing arrangements will be left up to the scholars and the willing physicians, but may be individual "one-off's" or on-going longitudinal experiences. We plan to collate a list of interested MD's (attending and residents) and have the scholars contact those individuals directly.

3. Seminar Series

The scholars will meet monthly at a mutually convenient time for an ongoing enrichment seminar series. These sessions are intended to help the scholars build a sense of community as a group as well as supplement their traditional in-class learning. Topics will vary, but will include sessions related to their education generally (e.g. study skills, MCAT prep), medically relevant topics (e.g. population health, medical communication) and sessions designed simply to help maintain their focus on the long term goal (e.g. introduction to X-ray interpretation, casting, suturing). The topics will be set two to three months in advance, and are subject to revision, so the program is very open to suggestions from people who may be interested in presenting / facilitating one or more sessions.



4. Medical student shadowing

In addition to clinical shadowing with physicians and residents, there is great enthusiasm amongst the scholars in spending time with and getting to know our medical students. They are keen to understand the life of a medical student, and to develop a better appreciation for this journey upon which they have embarked.

If you would be interested in being involved with the Pathways to Medicine Scholarship Program or its students, please make yourself known Ms. Barb Cowley, and tell us in what areas you would like to contribute. It would be helpful to us if you would include the following information:

- Name
- Current position
- Particular areas of interest
- Brief description of your background (particularly helpful for potential mentors)

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