The Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University invites rising high school senior students to apply for the Summer Scholars Research Program.

This program has been established to provide students with a unique immersion program in a cancer research laboratory.

The Summer Scholars Research Program (SSRP) consists of both academic and practicum components, and is available to students who are current juniors, who will be 17 or older at the start of the program, attending high school.

At the completion of the program students will have experienced the rich, interdisciplinary nature of biomedical research and will have an authentic understanding of the process of research.

The Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University’s history dates back to 1937 when Coca Cola President and Chairman Robert W. Woodruff partnered with Emory University to establish one of the first clinics in the nation devoted entirely to the care of cancer patients. Today, Mr. Woodruff’s vision for a comprehensive cancer treatment, research and medical training facility are fully realized.

At Winship, world-renowned faculty work to find solutions to the understanding of cancer biology and new approaches to the treatment of cancer. During the past 5 years, high school students have worked in laboratories alongside researchers involved in work related to cancer drug discovery and development, cancer metastasis and its mechanism, and immune reconstitution after bone marrow or stem cell transplantation., to name a few. Some students have translated their collaborations in these projects to presentations at local and international meetings.

Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University
1365-C Clifton Road, NE
Atlanta, GA 30322
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:
Enclosed are application and recommendation forms which can be copied and distributed to interested students. Qualified applicants must be current juniors and have completed three years of laboratory-based science classes that include advanced courses in chemistry, biology, and mathematics. To complete the application students must write a response to all questions on the application form, submit an official copy of their high school transcript, and have two letters of recommendation completed by teachers who know them well. The complete application and requested materials must be mailed to:

Dr. Mary Jo Lechowicz  
c/o Ms. Beverly Jones  
Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University  
1365 Clifton Road, Building C  
Suite C4005  
Atlanta, GA 30322  

For further information please contact Beverly Jones at 404-778-2249 or brjone3@emory.edu

Applications must be postmarked by February 11, 2011.

FORMER PARTICIPANTS’ QUOTES:
“It is the best summer program for a high school student who is really interested in medical research.”

“I felt it was really well organized, balanced with structured activities, speakers and independent research in individual labs.”

RESEARCH COMPONENT:
Students accepted into the program will be assigned to work with a research scientist or clinical oncologist who is actively engaged in research at Emory University School of Medicine. Students will work in a professional setting with their faculty mentors, as well as laboratory technicians and graduate students, in their assigned lab. Participants will learn about the research interests of their faculty mentor and be assigned to a specific question or problem relating to that interest. Students will learn specific laboratory protocols enabling them to address the question or problem and yield unique experimental results. Depending on the mentor, some projects may involve “dry” data analysis versus “wet” bench work.

ACADEMIC COMPONENT:
Before and during their tenure in a lab, students will be given reading assignments and attend lectures to introduce them to cell and cancer biology. Students are required to attend weekly lectures given by Emory University faculty, presentations by mentors, and will have the opportunity to visit the Georgia Cancer Center at Grady Hospital. Students might also attend weekly lab meetings with their mentors and other lab personnel to discuss how their work contributes to the research interests of the lab as a whole.

STUDENT COMMITMENT:
In May, all participants are required to attend an orientation at the Winship Cancer Institute to meet their faculty mentors and tour the facilities. Successful completion of this non-resident program requires that participants commit to being at Winship full-time, Monday through Friday, beginning Monday, June 6, 2011. Daily transportation is the responsibility of the student. Student are also expected to behave professionally and to dress according to rules outlined by Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). At the conclusion of the program each student will present his/her data using PowerPoint® to members of the participating research labs, family, friends, and high school science teachers during a formal summative symposium tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 15, 2011. During the symposium there is also an informal poster session.

TEACHER OPPORTUNITY:
Teachers are strongly encouraged to attend the orientation with the student the week of May 9, 2011 to become better acquainted with the program. Teachers are also encouraged to visit and observe their students at Winship during the summer and to attend the Symposium which is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 15, 2011 to see the quality of work generated by the students.