

Personal Statement Instructions

Your personal statement will be read by the selection committees of each summer program and in part, used to guide the selection of applicants. Your document can be uploaded as a Word (.doc or .docx) or Adobe (.pdf) document.

Step 1: Format

- First and Last Name must be at the top of all pages OR in the header.
- **Spacing:** Single or Double
- **Word limit:** 500 (minimum) 1,000 (maximum)
- **Page limit:** 2 pages
- **Page minimum:** 2 pages
- **Page maximum:** 2 pages
- **Margins:** 1-inch (all margins)
- **Font face:** Any
- **Font size:** 12 point
- **Required citation or format styles (e.g. MLA, APA):** No preference. Any style or format is acceptable.
- **References:** Not included in the 2-page limit
- **Mentor Choices (CP RTP Summer Research Experience applicants only):** Not included in the 2-page limit.

Step 2: Personal Statement Topics

Your personal statement must address the following areas:

1. Why you are interested in the MD Anderson Summer Experience?
2. What are you hoping to gain or achieve from this experience?
3. How would you benefit from this experience?
4. What are your educational goals?
5. Describe your research interests and please be specific (e.g. tobacco cessation, HPV, colon cancer).
6. Include any specific information about prior research, goals for future research and investigation.
7. **(CP RTP Summer Research Experience applications ONLY):** Why are you interested in **cancer prevention?**

COMPLETE STEP 3 ONLY IF YOU ARE AN APPLICANT OF THE

CP RTP SUMMER RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (CANCER PREVENTION RESEARCH TRAINING PROGRAM)

Do **NOT** complete Step 3 if you are an applicant of the following 10 programs:

1. CPRIT-CURE Summer Research Program
2. U54 Partnership for Excellence in Cancer Research Summer Training Program
3. First-Year Medical School Student Program
4. Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURP)
5. ITERT - Undergraduate Summer Research Training Program
6. SIRP - Summer Imaging Research Program
7. University Outreach Summer Program
8. King Foundation High School Program
9. SPCR - Science Park Summer Program in Cancer Research
10. Women and Minority Faculty Inclusion Summer Program

Step 3: Mentor Choices

For applicants of the CP RTP Summer Research Experience (Cancer Prevention Research Training Program) ONLY

On a separate page list a **minimum of 6** potential mentor choices, in order of preference, using the search methods below. **See the next page for an example.**

- 1) Search the faculty pages of the five (5) departments within the **Division of Cancer Prevention and Population Sciences (DCPPS)** listed below. Each faculty name on the department page is hyperlinked to the faculty profile which describes their research.
 1. [Department of Epidemiology Faculty](#)
 2. [Department of Health Services Research Faculty](#)
 3. [Department of Behavioral Science Faculty](#)
 4. [Department of Clinical Cancer Prevention Faculty](#)
 5. [Department of Health Disparities Research Faculty](#)
- 2) Select from the list of participating CP RTP summer mentors at <http://bit.ly/CP RTP-SummerMentor>. NOTE: This list includes **pre-approved** faculty outside of the DCPPS. These faculty have an established relationship with the CP RTP and have previously collaborated with summer students on projects in cancer prevention research.
- 3) Students currently working (or planning to work) with **faculty outside of the Division of Cancer Prevention (DCPPS)** may list them as a potential mentor choice, but must make note of their current working relationship (see example on next page). If the applicant is selected, this non-DCPPS faculty will be required to submit a *Cancer Prevention Project Description Form* to the CP RTP Program Director, Dr. Shine Chang, for approval, before a match is made. This form will be provided by the program manager at the start of the mentor matching process.

Personal Statement

PLEASE NOTE: Applicants of the CP RTP Summer Research Experience must address why they are interested in cancer prevention research within their personal statement.

I am highly interested in MD Anderson's CP RTP Summer Research Experience because.....dgiagjafaklhbjkahjfaklhjfksl;hjkfa;l gjkslhj;lgjsgjksl;hjkshjks;lhjfl;shhs g fslgjf skj fgsitroepw kgfvslmj ld agjkdla; gjda ; fdjoa gjoagjlagjdakl fdolleojtgadl dl adojfdamv daogdagmjml agdkajhklfjalhajh dfajlgjalgalgal agjlagkaddgjagjafaklhbjkahjfaklhjfksl;hjkfa;l gjkslhj;lgjsgjksl;hjkshjks;lhjfl;shhs g fslgjf skj fgsitroepw kgfvslmj ld agjkdla; gjda ; fdjoa gjoagjlagjdakl fdolleojtgadl dl adojfdamv daogdagmjml agdkajhklfjalhajh dfajlgjalgalgal agjlagkaddgjagjafaklhbjkahjfaklhjfksl;hjkfa;l gjkslhj;lgjsgjksl;hjkshjks;lhjfl;shhs g fslgjf skj fgsitroepw kgfvslmj ld agjkdla; gjda ; fdjoa gjoagjlagjdakl fdolleojtgadl dl adojfdamv daogdagmjml agdkajhklfjalhajh dfajlgjalgalgal agjlagkaddgjagjafaklhbjkahjfaklhjfksl;hjkfa;l gjkslhj;lgjsgjksl;hjkshjks;lhjfl;shhs g fslgjf skj fgsitroepw kgfvslmj ld agjkdla; gjda ; fdjoa gjoagjlagjdakl fdolleojtgadl dl adojfdamv daogdagmjml agdkajhklfjalhajh dfajlgjalgalgal agjlagkaddgjagjafaklhbjkahjfaklhjfksl;hjkfa;l gjkslhj;lgjsgjksl;hjkshjks;lhjfl;shhs g fslgjf skj fgsitroepw kgfvslmj ld agjkdla; gjda ; fdjoa gjoagjlagjdakl fdolleojtgadl dl adojfdamv daogdagmjml agdkajhklfjalhajh dfajlgjalgalgal agjlagkaddgjagjafaklhbjkahjfaklhjfksl;hjkfa;l gjkslhj;lgjsgjksl;hjkshjks;lhjfl;shhs g fslgjf skj fgsitroepw kgfvslmj ld agjkdla; gjda ; fdjoa gjoagjlagjdakl fdolleojtgadl dl adojfdamv daogdagmjml agdkajhklfjalhajh dfajlgjalgalgal agjlagkad

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My research interests Teheoia dkajfkda dakgiklagjda dagjlakgja dgajklgjaj njda wpoamgkdlajgda tejhajtes hteklshel lll. agaljgajgdakljg jdfgkaljgklajg astueiao;etjanvfgklvednak djafkljdgakl jggjkladtj alola jdkajg jdklagjadkl a daiogudaioguja akjgkdlajgdas bjkfedashdkj kjglagjal lla ewindin afdea.Teheoia dkajfkda dakgiklagjda dagjlakgja dgajklgjaj njda wpoamgkdlajgda tejhajtes hteklshel lll. agaljgajgdakljg jdfgkaljgklajg astueiao;etjanvfgklvednak djafkljdgakl jggjkladtj alola jdkajg jdklagjadkl a daiogudaioguja akjgkdlajgdas bjkfedashdkj kjglagjal lla ewindin afdea.Teheoia dkajfkda dakgiklagjda dagjlakgja dgajklgjaj njda wpoamgkdlajgda tejhajtes hteklshel lll.agaljgajgdakljg jdfgkaljgklajg astueiao;etjanvfgklvednak djafkljdgakl jggjkladtj alola jdkajg jdklagjadkl a daiogudaioguja akjgkdlajgdas bjkfedashdkj kjglagjal lla ewindin afdea.

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Mentor Choices

Mentor Choice #1: Dr. Sandy Spinach (*currently working with Dr. Spinach*)

Department: Gastrointestinal (G) Medical Oncology

Reason(s): In January of this year, I began working uncompensated, part-time with Dr. Spinach, to learn about colorectal cancer, its associated treatments and complications. I would like to continue working with Dr. Spinach.

Mentor Choice #2: Dr. Jamal Broccoli

Department: Epidemiology

Reason(s): I believe exploring the connection between diet, exercise, and cancer is something to look into more especially in populations that may lack access to healthcare and other items.

Mentor Choice #3: Dr. Juanita Pear

Department: Health Services Research

Reason(s): After witnessing my grandmother suffer under no chemotherapy and radiation, I've been interested in radiotherapy technology and recognize its significance in making treatments less taxing.

Mentor Choice #4: Dr. Lucy App

Department: Behavioral Science

Reason(s): Due to my previous work with genetic testing, I've become interested in its application for cancer prevention.

Mentor Choice #5: Dr. Rob P

Department: Clinical Cancer Prevention

Reason(s): I believe Dr. Duck's lab will also give me a chance to use my interest in genetics and the genome and apply it to a new topic and a new field.

Mentor Choice #6: Dr. Sally Banana

Department: Clinical Cancer Prevention

Reason(s): Breast cancer has played a role in my family, and I think working with Dr. Banana would give me the opportunity to learn more about this cancer and its risk factors.