



# Diversity in Cancer Research

University of Chicago

[www.uchicagomedicine.org/DICR](http://www.uchicagomedicine.org/DICR)

[DICR@bsd.uchicago.edu](mailto:DICR@bsd.uchicago.edu)

Dear Recommender,

Thank you for agreeing to support an applicant to the Diversity in Cancer Research (DICR) program at the University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center. DICR welcomes undergraduates to explore exciting careers in cancer research. Over the course of the summer, participants work full time in the laboratories of established cancer researchers, gaining hands-on experience in areas at the forefront of the field: cancer immunology, molecular mechanisms of cancer, clinical and experimental cancer therapeutics, cancer prevention and control, and more. Rigorous research training is complemented with year-round career development and skill-building workshops, leadership training, opportunities in community outreach and engagement, and personalized mentorship for post-baccalaureate transitions. More information about the program can be found here: [www.uchicagomedicine.org/DICR](http://www.uchicagomedicine.org/DICR).

Admission to DICR is competitive: only six new participants are selected each year. Successful applicants demonstrate a passion for science, an interest in careers in biomedicine, and the maturity and drive to perform in a professional research setting. **Please tell us why your applicant is right for DICR by completing the online recommendation form at [https://redcap.link/DICR\\_rec\\_2025](https://redcap.link/DICR_rec_2025).** Be prepared to provide your name and contact information, a description of your relationship to the applicant (i.e., your qualifications as a recommender) and responses to the following questions:

- What do you feel the applicant has most to gain from a program of this kind?
- What qualities have you observed in the applicant that suggest they are prepared to meet the demands of a professional research environment?
- What else is important for us to know about the applicant?

For full consideration, recommendations should be submitted by **11:59PM Central on Monday, January 20, 2025**. Please direct all questions to [DICR@bsd.uchicago.edu](mailto:DICR@bsd.uchicago.edu) or call 773-702-9699. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Megan A. Mekinda, PhD  
Director for Education, Training, and Evaluation  
University of Chicago Medicine Comprehensive Cancer Center