Frequently Asked Questions:

1) My school ends later than the SRI start date, can I still participate?
   a. Usually yes, although it will depend how late your anticipated start date is. You will be expected to make up all course work and will still need to present your poster on the last date of the program.

2) My school begins prior to the SRI end date, can I still participate?
   a. Typically no if it means you will not be present on the final day of the program. Interns are required to present their posters on the last day of the program.

3) What if I don’t meet the definition of diverse background; can I still apply?
   a. Yes! We encourage all interested students to apply regardless of background.

4) Will I be considered for the program if I don’t have a background in a health sciences field?
   a. Yes; however it would be in your best interest to make sure your application demonstrates your knowledge of scientific research methods and interest in the health sciences as a career.

5) Does the program provide housing?
   a. No and the program does not assist in coordinating housing.

6) I’ve missed the deadline, can I apply anyway?
   a. No, but as long as you will still be enrolled as an undergraduate student we welcome and encourage you to apply next year.

7) How do I know if my application was successfully received?
   a. You will receive a confirmation email from program staff once your complete application is received. If you have not received an email from us confirming receipt, either it is incomplete or we did not receive it.

8) How many interns are selected?
   a. We typically have 5 interns; however this is subject to change without prior notification.

9) If selected, when do I have to decide if I’m going to participate in this program?
   a. Selected interns are encouraged to respond ASAP; however interns have until “decision deadline” or 1 week after notification of selection (whichever comes later).

10) How is the stipend paid?
    a. The stipend is paid after the successful completion of the program. Because the program spans two fiscal years, the full stipend amount is divided into two separate checks. Taxes are not calculated or withheld, thus it is up to the intern to calculate and pay appropriate taxes on the money received. If the checks are not available on the last day of the internship they are mailed to the intern as soon as possible thereafter.

11) What kinds of lectures and activities does the program provide?
    a. The program provides formal lectures on a wide variety research topics, including, but not limited to ethics (responsible conduct of research, misconduct, HIPAA, Human Subjects, IRB, authorship, etc.), research methodology (formulating a research question, study design, data management, statistics,
analysis, etc.), professional development (writing and presenting your research, research leadership, successful research collaborations, graduate school applications, etc.), and cultural aspects of health (social determinants of health, cultural trauma, bias and sources of error, etc.). Informal talks further immerse interns in cultural influences on health and research and provide experiential learning experiences (problem based learning, Native Hawaiian perspectives on health, life and death, mock interviews, etc.). Weekly group seminar provides peer support and the ability to collectively problem solve learning and research project barriers. Group seminar also further enhances professional skills by focusing on topics such as professional goal attainment planning, building resilience, stress management and preventing burnout, effective communication, and developing your leadership style. Cultural activities help interns to understand the influence of culture on health and research through experiential practice of Native Hawaiian health practices (practicing traditional methods of planting healthy food, caring for a medicinal garden, caring for a fish pond, following traditional protocol, etc.), visiting sacred places, providing community service, and interacting with elders. Physician shadowing experiences and tours of Queen’s Hospital and JABSOM facilities serve to familiarize and expose interns to clinical and academic environments.