

How do I get involved in research
at NCC?

Logistics

- Website
- Email from Dr. Mauro in ~2 weeks
- Due: **4 pm on March 3rd, 2017** (Friday of Week 9)
- The form will ask for your basic information (name, major, contact info, etc.) and for classes you have taken

Logistics

- You will also be asked to rank four research groups you are interested in joining
- Paid vs. volunteer
- Living on campus (~\$150/week) or commuting
- Comfortable presenting research at meetings
- **CV and cover letter**

Talk to the faculty member

- Your application should not come as a surprise to them
- Do some research into the lab, and come up with good questions you can ask during the meeting
- Keep in mind - we always get more applications than there are positions

What goes into your Cover letter?

- The position you are interested in and why you are interested in it.
- What attributes can you bring to the position? How are you a good fit?
- What will this position will give you? How might it help you with future goals?

What should your CV include?

- **Education:** In college you can put high school but once graduated, drop High school, GPA
- **Relevant experience:** Tailor to the position you are looking for (you might have more than 1 version of your CV)
 - Relevant coursework
 - Research Experience
 - Work experiences (volunteering, shadowing, working with patients)
 - Extracurricular/Leadership Experience
 - Conference Presentations

How do I get involved in research
outside NCC?

Applying to a Summer Research Program

- Personal Information in form of CV or resume
- Transcripts (NCC and previous schools)
- Letter of Interest/Intent (1-2 pages)
- Letters of Recommendation (2-3 faculty members who know you well and can write a strong letter)

Do your own Research!

- Do not apply blindly! Do research on various programs.
- Use more than one site to look for programs.
- Identify different types of research done at the different programs
- Identify aspects of these program(s) that NCC does NOT offer and identify reasons why you want to go to one of these labs

Be Organized

- Order transcripts ahead of time. It can take up to two weeks to get them
- Keep track of application deadlines and materials.
- Give letter writers enough notice (several weeks)

How to ask for a letter of recommendation

- Make sure the person you are asking knows you well enough to write a personal letter
- Go in person and ask if the letter writer can write you a strong letter of recommendation
- Provide the letter writer with
 - Your CV/resume
 - Personal statement if possible (one for each position if necessary)
 - A summary sheet with information on where to submit each letter and the deadline for submission
- Always send a thank you note to your letter writers once they have sent the letters.

Letter of Interest/Intent

- Keep it short and concise but include relevant research experience or research in course work
- Outline your particular research interests
- Outline your professional goals
- How will this program match interests/help with professional goals
- Make it personal: anecdote or narrative that gives a unique sense of you and your motivation
- Proofread!

Don't despair if you don't get in

- If you are not selected for a paid position at NCC, perhaps you can volunteer this summer.
- National programs are very competitive - less than 10% acceptance rate
- Get involved with D-term research
- Talk to a professor about an independent study. You can get course credit for your work.
- Get involved on campus (TA, tutoring, clubs). Bring your grades up. Make yourself a stronger candidate