

# Kansas Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) Center

## Summer PKD Undergraduate Research (SPUR) Internship

Applications are due February 28, 2026

The Kansas PKD Center in the **Jared Grantham Kidney Institute** at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas is accepting applications for a limited number of summer research internships for undergraduate students who are interested in working on a mentored research projects related to polycystic kidney disease (PKD). PKD is one of the most common genetic disorders that affects 1:1000 people (~12 million worldwide) and is characterized by the formation and relentless growth of fluid-filled cysts that eventually impair kidney function. Approximately, one half of PKD patients progress to renal failure, requiring dialysis or renal transplantation. Academic and industry investigators are working to identify druggable targets to slow PKD progression.

The SPUR program offers weekly lectures on kidney physiology and pathophysiology taught by basic and clinical faculty. Summer students are expected to be availability to work full-time (40 hours per week) on their research project for a 10-week period between June 1 and August 7, 2026. At the end of their project, students are expected to give a 20-minute seminar presentation on their results to PKD Center faculty and research staff.

Summer students will be compensated by a summer stipend that is based on academic rank at the time of the application. Freshmen (defined as someone who has completed the first year of college) and sophomores will receive \$2,900; whereas juniors and seniors will receive \$3,600. High school students that are 16-year-old or older are invited to apply to the program as a volunteer.

The application process can be completed on-line <https://www.kumc.edu/research/kidney-institute/research/pkd-summer-research-internships.html> or by mail at the address below. The application includes a *curriculum vita* (CV) or resume, one-page summary that describes your interest in PKD research and plans after graduation, such as graduate or medical school, laboratory research, or healthcare. Applicants will need to indicate their availability to pursue a summer project full-time (i.e. 8 am to 5 pm, Monday-Friday) between June 1 and August 7, 2026. Applicants will be notified of acceptance by April 3, 2026.

### Contact Information:

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