C*STAR
Cancer Scholars for Translational and Applied Research
Research  |  Innovation  |  Advancement
A Carle Foundation Hospital and University of Illinois program

Carle Foundation Hospital and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, through their respective Cancer Centers, have jointly established the Cancer Scholars for Translational and Applied Research (C*STAR) program.

A Carle clinician and a University of Illinois faculty member — as part of a team bridged by an Illinois graduate student — co-design a translational research project that fosters near-term benefits to patients served in the community.

Requirements
Each team — composed of faculty, clinician, and student — must meet regularly to complete the scope of work proposed. Projects are designed to facilitate formal interaction and collaboration between the university researcher and clinician. Using a team-based approach, projects are co-designed by all members. This allows for students to receive firsthand experience working on a clinically relevant project that addresses cancer prevention, detection, diagnosis, or treatment. Programmatic activities may include faculty-clinician-student teams participating in grand rounds, alternating planning meetings at each site, workshops, quarterly collaborative update meetings, and joint seminars.

This year, targeted areas of interest are projects that impact quality of life, patient outcomes, population health, survivorship, nutrition, or projects that are at the point of entering clinical applications. Examples include projects that focus on providing real-time intraoperative and easy-to-interpret imaging strategies, the development of applications to aid in symptom monitoring, and health disparities. Other topics of interest include technologies for symptom management, data tools, behavioral health strategies for HPV vaccination, and decision support tools for screening guidelines.

Funding
Up to six students per year will have the opportunity to work with a Carle Cancer Center physician and an Illinois faculty member on a cancer-relevant project on a competitive renewal basis. Students selected as scholars may receive an 11-month appointment, with half of the funding provided by Carle, while the other half of the funding is provided by the University.

2018 Dates and Deadlines
Application Deadline:       July 5
Award Notification:         July 23

For more information: cancercenter.illinois.edu/cstar-program  |  cancerscholars@illinois.edu