Medical Student Research Office

Distinction in Research Guidelines for Students and Mentors

The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai considers exposure to research an essential part of the medical school curriculum, and all students are required to participate in a scholarly project prior to graduation. Distinction in Research (DIR) recognizes students who take ownership of an original research project and publish the results as a first author during medical school. **Students in the MSTP program are now eligible to apply.**

In order to qualify for graduation with Distinction in Research, you must:

1. Be in good academic standing at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

2. Have a first author manuscript on an original research study accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. *Effective January 1, 2018, only manuscripts published in a peer-reviewed journal with an Impact Factor ≥ 2 will be eligible for Distinction in Research.*

3. Submit a letter from the project mentor endorsing the submission and supporting the application for Distinction in Research. This letter must include an attestation that the work presented in the publication was started after matriculation to the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. The guidelines for mentor’s letter of support is available on blackboard, click [here](#).

4. Submit an application, including a copy of the manuscript, to the Medical Student Research Office: [Application Form](#)

For further instructions on this process please visit the DIR website by [clicking here](#) or visit the [Medical Student Research page](#) on blackboard.

Students should submit all documents, including the application form, manuscript, and mentor's letter of support electronically to [medicalstudentresearch@mssm.edu](mailto:medicalstudentresearch@mssm.edu)