SUMMER 2026

Medical Research Outset Program

Outset

Dates: July 5-10, 2026

Campus: University of Massachusetts

Overview

Explore the frontiers of medical research in Boston's world-class labs and clinics.

Outset's Medical Research program immerses students in the process of scientific discovery and how research drives innovation in medicine. During the week in Boston, students participate in lab experiments, hands-on projects, and workshops covering genetics, neuroscience, cancer research, and clinical trials.

Small-group sessions with experienced scientists give students a front-row view of how experiments are designed and data analyzed. These sessions provide practical experience with real-world research techniques and highlight the critical thinking skills needed in medical investigation.

In addition to classroom and lab experiences, students visit some of Boston's top research institutes, companies and/or laboratories. These visits give students the chance to observe scientists at work and see firsthand the impact of medical research on patient care and healthcare innovation. Students also gain insight into how research teams collaborate to solve complex medical problems.

By the end of the program, students gain hands-on experience, a deeper understanding of the research process, and inspiration from Boston's vibrant biomedical community, preparing them to explore the future of medicine through research.

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What to Expect in a Week of Outset Medical Research

Introduction to Medical Research & Workshops at our Host Campus

Students will learn how medical research is conducted through lectures, workshops, guided projects, and interactive activities. Examples of activities may include*:

Laboratory Techniques & Data Analysis: Conduct experiments in genetics, molecular biology, or neuroscience and learn how to collect, process, and interpret data using real research methods.

Clinical & Translational Research: Explore how laboratory discoveries are applied to patient care, including clinical trials, study design, and understanding outcomes in real-world medical settings.

Collaborative Research Projects: Work in teams to design and carry out small-scale research projects, learning how scientists collaborate to solve complex medical questions.

Guest Research Speakers & Q&A with Boston-area Research Scientists:

Students will attend sessions led by medical researchers at the forefront of healthcare innovation.

Speakers will share firsthand perspectives on careers in medical research, current discoveries, and the process of turning scientific ideas into real-world treatments. Example topics*:

- How researchers translate lab findings into patient care
- Cutting-edge studies in genetics, neuroscience, cancer, and more
- Pathways from undergraduate study to medical or research careers
- Ethical considerations and challenges in human and lab research
- Student-driven Q&A about careers, research opportunities, and innovation

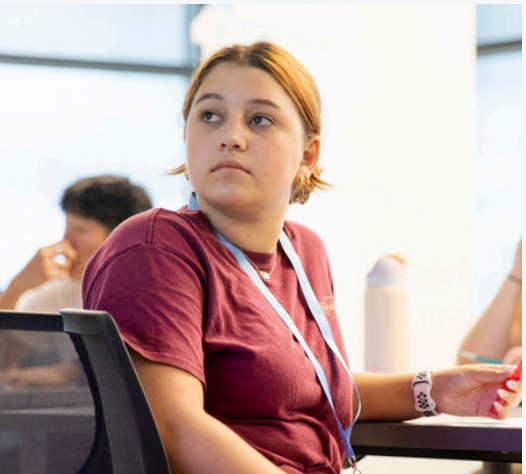
Off-Campus Visits to Top Labs and Research Centers in Boston

Students will visit and tour research labs and/or research institutes in the Boston area, seeing up close how medical research is conducted and how discoveries impact healthcare.

These visits provide a behind-the-scenes look at cutting-edge techniques, ongoing studies, and collaborative research in action.

Our tour schedule is still being finalized, but students can expect visits to at least two Boston-area research institutions or centers.

***Note: activities may vary.** Students receive final schedules closer to their program date.



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Example Day

Here's an example of a day in the Medical Research program at Outset. Each day is packed with classroom sessions, workshops, and off-campus activities. We try to have both academics and fun!

8:00 – 8:45 AM	Grab breakfast in dining hall with other students.
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Classroom session on Careers in Medical Research
10:00 – 10:45 AM	Medical Research Workshop (topic TBD)
11:00 – 11:45 AM	Classroom session on Techniques in Biomedical Research
12:00 – 2:00 PM	Enjoy lunch at the dining halls, then free time or staff-led activities around campus.
2:00 – 5:00 PM	Head to downtown Boston for a site visit and tour at a leading research lab
5:00 – 6:00 PM	Grab dinner at a local Boston restaurant with your group
6:00 – 9:00 PM	Enjoy a staff-coordinated evening activity out in Boston!
9:00 - 9:30 PM	Take the bus back to campus
9:30 – 11:00 PM	Relax in the student dorm with friends, shower, and wind down before lights out.

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Your Foundation for the Pre-Med Journey

Our Path to Pre-Med curriculum is designed by pre-med advisors to help students understand what it takes, before they start the path.

Map Your Medical Journey	See the full timeline and financial picture.
Pick the Perfect College	Find the school that sets you up for pre-med success.
Tackle Pre-Med Challenges	Learn how to handle the toughest college hurdles.
Plan Your Courses	Know what classes to take and in what order.
Ace Hard Classes	Master strategies for challenging pre-med courses.
Gap Year Options	Weigh pros and cons of a gap year before med school.
Understand the MCAT	What it is, why it matters, and prep tips.
Master Med School Applications	Learn the process and how to stand out.

Hear from students what they take away from the Path to Pre-Med curriculum at the video on our home page:

Learn More

Program FAQs

What kind of student is a good fit for Medical Research?

Students who are curious, motivated, and excited to explore science and medicine through hands-on research. We look for applicants who demonstrate dedication, creativity, and a willingness to engage in a challenging, collaborative learning environment.

How competitive is the Medical Research program?

Medical Research is one of our more selective programs due to high academic and professional standards. If you're unsure about your fit, we encourage you to speak with your Admissions Representative for guidance.

Are there grade requirements for Medical Research?

Yes, the Medical Research program is for current 9th-12th graders.

Can I switch program specialty later?

You can switch programs up to 2 months before your start date if there are still spots available in other programs on your campus. We cannot guarantee this, so please contact our Admissions team for more info.

Can I do back to back programs in different specialties?

Yes. Back to back programs are a great way to meet more peers, explore other specialties, and reinforce core learning. Note that if you stay on the same campus, activities may repeat and you will be participating in the "Path to Pre-Med" course again along with your new week's student cohort.

What if I'm not sure this is the right program for me?

See our overview of other program specialties on the next page. You can also visit our website to explore other programs.

Contact Us

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FAQs Cont'd

Admissions deadline & process?

There is no deadline! We have rolling Admissions. We have a simple 4-step Admissions process. You can learn more how it works by **clicking here**.

What is the cost?

Tuition and housing for our programs is $2,950, including 24/7 staff, dorms, meals, 20+ hours of academics, speakers, evening activities, and activity transport. Travel to and from campus is not included.

Is there financial aid?

Yes, if you need financial aid please indicate this on your application and fill out the aid request information. We are not able to guarantee aid but we do take every aid request seriously.

How do I apply? How competitive?

Applying online is easy: **click here**. You'll hear from us within 2 business days. Outset is competitive and we look for motivated students with strong grades and a genuine interest in medicine or healthcare.

Are students monitored 24 hours a day?

Outset maintains a 7:1 student-to-staff ratio, with ACA-trained staff providing 24/7 supervision. Our programs meet strict safety standards, and campuses are monitored to ensure students are safe at all times.

What is accommodation like?

Outset partners with student residence halls. Rooms are shared by 1–2 students of the same gender, with shared bathrooms. Single rooms are available ($300–400). Dorms usually have common areas to socialize.

More Info

Hear from our alumni

What to expect in a week with Outset:

Have fun as you grow

Perfect balance of fun and education. My daughter made some great friends here, and it really solidified her passion for and decision to go into medicine.

~Outset Parent, 2025

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Trustpilot
TrustScore 4.7 | 105 reviews
Trustpilot checks reviews

The trusted leader for teen career exploration.

Outset is trusted by 1,000+ families each summer for high-quality teen summer programs. Read our reviews and see why we're the leading brand for summer education.

hosa future health professionals

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

NCHSE National Consortium for Health Science Education

Read Reviews

All Programs

**Not sure if Medical Research is the right program for you?
Check out some of our other MD path specialties:**

Orthopedic Surgery	Study musculoskeletal system care, bones, joints, and injuries.
General Medicine	Explore the fundamentals of care, diagnosis, and treatment.
Cardiology	Explore surgical care for the brain, spine, and nervous system.
Psychiatry	Focus on mental health assessment and treatment.
Anesthesiology	Learn how anesthesia supports surgeries and patient safety.
Pediatrics	Focus on healthcare of children from infancy to adolescence.
Dentistry	Study oral health, dental procedures, and patient care.
General Surgery	Explore surgical principles and patient care for procedures.
Emergency Medicine	Understand fast-paced care for urgent and acute conditions.
Dermatology	Study skin health, conditions, and treatments.
AI in Medicine	Explore AI applications in healthcare and medicine.

See All Programs

Ready for your week at Outset?

Apply Now

Have questions or need to follow-up on your admissions process? Schedule time with our Admissions Team

Schedule Call