

# The Voelcker Biomedical Research Academy

Scholars Program

## The Vision

The vision of the Max and Minnie Tomerlin Voelcker Fund Biomedical Research Academy is to provide an immersive biomedical research educational and college preparatory program for San Antonio high school students. Through a collaborative partnership with the UT Health San Antonio, the goal of the Academy is to create a pipeline for the next generation of outstanding biomedical scientists for our community and the world.

The Voelcker Biomedical Research Academy partners the very best rising juniors with outstanding biomedical scientists from the UT Health Science Center to promote excellence in scholarship and biomedical research training for a 2-year period. Students are selected from schools within Bexar County and parental involvement is required. In year 1, the Academy consists of an immersive, hands-on, summer research program, in addition to participation in a number of special research oriented activities throughout the academic year. In year 2, distinguished UTHSA scientists serve as the students' mentors. At the conclusion of the first year of the program, all successful Voelcker Scholars are awarded a Voelcker Student stipend and invited to participate in the second year of the program.

The primary metric for success of the Academy is the development of a pool of highly competitive students in San Antonio who successfully pursue future careers in biomedical research in our community.



## About the Voelcker Family

Max and Minnie Tomerlin Voelcker were deeply interested in medical research, San Antonio and children. The Voelcker Fund Biomedical Research Academy is proud to support the goals of the Voelcker Fund to advance medical research that leads to cures for some of the most serious health conditions, including cancer, heart disease, muscular dystrophy, arthritis, macular degeneration and neurodegeneration.

**UTHSA**  
Biomedical  
Research

# The Voelcker Biomedical Research Academy Scholars Program

## Who

Up to 20 high school students from San Antonio and the surrounding areas are selected to participate in year 1. Applicants must be recommended by two teachers, including one recommendation from a science teacher, and must be classified as rising junior in the 2019-2020 school year. Criteria used to select candidates includes academic performance, essay and personal interview.

## When

Seven week program from June 19- Aug 1, 2019.  
An average day is from 5-8 hours.

## Where

UT Health San Antonio  
7703 Floyd Curl Drive. San Antonio, Texas 78229

## Overview

The Voelcker Biomedical Research Academy commitment requires a considerable effort from each participant. No other major activities should be planned during duration of the summer program. Students are also required to attend activities scheduled during the academic school year and are expected to make every effort to attend. Scholarships for transportation costs are available if needed. At the conclusion of each summer program, students will summarize their work either as a poster presentation, a written abstract or an oral presentation.

## Requirements

- \*parental permission and attendance at orientation and reception events
- \*90 in math, science and English (85 or better if honors or AP)
- \*Must be in good standing in all courses
- \*2 letters of recommendation (1 from a science teacher)
- \*Satisfactory conduct grade
- \*A well-written essay
- \*Interview for selected applicants

## How To Apply

Students must provide a completed application packet including:  
An application form A  
personal essay  
Letters of recommendation from two teachers\*  
(\*including one science teacher)  
An official high school transcript

Applications must be completed by: Friday-  
February 15, 2019 at 11:59pm.

*Speak to your school administration, counselor or science teacher if you would like to be nominated as a candidate applicant for your school.*

*For specific questions: contact Dr. Irene Chapa*

**Irene Chapa, Ph.D.**

*Director*

Recruitment and Science Outreach  
Voelcker Biomedical Research Academy  
UT Health San Antonio  
Office: (210) 567-3941, Fax: (210) 567-0399  
Email: chapai@uthscsa.edu