WHAT: The STAR Program provides a hands-on, high-quality research experience during the summer academic break. During the program, participants get the chance to:

- Work with a Duke faculty mentor on an original research project
- Submit their research for publication in a peer-reviewed journal
- Learn about research methodology, writing, statistics, medical ethics, and career development
- Students who are age 18 and above can experience clinical medicine firsthand by shadowing a physician on hospital rounds

WHO: Undergraduate students and rising junior and senior high school students are encouraged to apply. No background in scientific research is necessary, but strong academic performance and an interest in medicine and/or the sciences are preferred. U.S. citizenship or permanent residency is required for participation.

WHEN: The program takes place over 8 weeks from mid-June to early August.

WHERE: The program is held at the Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI), a clinical research organization that is part of Duke University. The DCRI is located at 300 West Morgan Street in downtown Durham, North Carolina.
WHY: The STAR Program gives participants:

- Hands-on experience in research that will improve the care of real patients
- A better understanding of what it’s like to work in medical research
- Contacts in the local medical research community
- The opportunity to get their work published in peer-reviewed journals, a critical step that establishes them in the scientific community
- PLUS, the program provides a stipend to attend, which allows students to participate who were planning to work over the summer break. The only costs associated with the program are housing and transportation.

HOW TO APPLY: Visit the STAR Program website (dcri.org/education/dukes-star-program) to complete an application. Applications will be accepted from Nov. 19, 2018 through Jan. 11, 2019. Your application must include:

- A completed personal data form
- Two letters of support provided by non-relatives (to be emailed by the letter writers)
- School transcript
- Essay addressing the question posed in the application

Contact Divine Pinson, Program Coordinator, at divinagracia.pinson@duke.edu for more information.