



James Mohr Scholarship

Kelsey Tolbert

Biology, Senior

A few things about me:

I am a transfer student from Snow College where I obtained an Associate's Degree. Aside from studying, I spent my free time climbing in the nearby canyons and managing the science club, the Dead Cat's Society. As club president, I worked to increase scientific literacy within the university and the community. Upon transferring to Utah State University, I began work at the Institute of Antiviral Research. My role as a laboratory technician gave me insight and experience into the research environment, which led me to conduct a project of my own. Last autumn, I began a study to test clove oil on the inflammation response associated with Chikungunya viral infection and I will be presenting my findings at the Spring Undergraduate Symposium. My interest in antivirals and their role in global health drove me to volunteer with UNICEF where I worked as advocacy chairman. I have also worked as a teacher's assistant in both anatomy and human dissection courses and I have logged over 70 hours volunteering at both Mountain View Hospital and Logan Regional Hospital.

By this point in my life, my passion for medicine has solidified and I will be applying to medical schools this summer. I desire to bridge the skills I have developed during my undergraduate degree with the knowledge I will obtain in medical school to specialize in the study and treatment of infectious diseases. Being the recipient of the James Mohr scholarship for the 2015-2016 school year is a true honor. I have seen the caliber of achievement reached by prior recipients and I will strive to do the same.