University of Michigan - Cancer Biology Department
http://cancerbio.medicine.umich.edu/cancer-research-summer-internship-program

- Summer Morrill (Biology, 2015)
- Research Assistant
- Full-time, 40 hours per week
- Paid

What do you do as an intern at this organization?
I am working with a current graduate student at the University of Michigan in a lab which studies DNA damage and repair mechanisms. My particular project has to do with chromosomal translocations in prostate cancer.

How did you find your internship?
I did a generic search on Biomedical research training programs for the summer; this was one of the few opportunities that I saw that was specific to cancer biology, which was what initially drew me to it.

What do you enjoy most about your internship?
The director of the program, who is also the director of the Cancer Biology department at Michigan, did an excellent job at matching students in the program with mentors at Michigan. We were all offered something different that was tailored to our interests.

What do you find challenging?
The program is only 10 weeks long, and it goes by very quickly! You have to really be committed to your work to make headway on your project, but it is without a doubt always worth it in the end to see the progress that you'll make.

What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?
Deadlines for summer research internships come early! Almost every program I applied for like this one had an application deadline in late January or early February. It also doesn't hurt to contact someone in the program if you have questions - it gets your name out there.

About the Organization
University of Michigan - Cancer Biology Department
Ann Arbor, MI

As part of its Cancer Biology Training Program, the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center provides exposure to cancer research for highly motivated and talented college undergraduates. This program gives the successful applicants an opportunity to explore potential careers in the field of cancer research. Internships are aimed at students who are completing their sophomore or junior undergraduate year this spring. Interns work directly in a cancer laboratory setting. Program mentors give presentations on their work in cancer every other week at an informal luncheon that interns are required to attend. At the end of the internship program, each intern will be asked to give a short presentation on their work.