



REPID

Research Education Program to Increase Diversity in Health Researchers

FAQ: REPID Program

Q: What is the application deadline?

A: October 15.

Q: Does an applicant need previous research experience?

A: No, the applicant is not required to have prior research experience.

Q: How many students are accepted to the program?

A: Sixteen (16) to twenty (20) students are accepted to the program each year.

Q: Who is qualified for this program?

A: The program is intended for MSU Undergraduate, Graduate, and Health Professional Students (College of Public Health, Natural Science, Nursing, Medical, and Veterinary, for example).

Q: What is the minimum GPA requirement to apply to this program?

A: The minimum accumulative GPA requirement is a 2.0 and is in good standing with the University.

Q: What are the prerequisite courses for this program?

A: The following courses (or equivalents)

(Use these courses as a guide, every student's course load will vary):

BS 161 Cell and Molecular Biology or BS 111 Cell & Molecules

BS 171 or BS 111L Cell and Molecular Biology Laboratory

CEM 141 General Chemistry

CEM 161 Chemistry Laboratory I

CEM 252 Organic Chemistry II (or concurrently)

MTH 116 College Algebra and Trigonometry

Q: What recommendations letter will be accepted?

A: The applicant is required to submit three letters of recommendations with their application. Two of the three recommendations is required to be from a Michigan State University professor or faculty member.

Q: Which minorities qualify for this program?

A: The program is specifically intended for students from underrepresented, minority and disadvantaged groups in the biomedical field according to National Institute of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). The following racial and ethnic groups have been shown to be underrepresented in biomedical research: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Alaskan Natives, Hawaiian Natives, and natives of the US Pacific Islands. In addition, it is recognized that under-representation can vary from setting to setting and individuals from racial or ethnic groups that can be convincingly demonstrated to be underrepresented by the grantee institution should be included in the recruitment and retention plan. For more information please link to: <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-190.html>.



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Q: What is the scholarship package?

A: The program will provide support (\$7,000-\$12,000 total award package, dependent on the class standing of the scholar) for 16 students per year to include part of the cost of tuition for MED 492 (\$1000), a summer stipend (either \$4000 or \$7000, depending on student level), funds to travel to a local/regional/national scientific conference (\$500), summer room and board (\$100-\$1500), and lab supplies (\$1000).

-Stipend: Provided for summer research work. Scholars will be paid on an hourly basis for a maximum of 12 weeks for full time work (40 hours/week).

-The level of scholarship stipend depends on level of the individual scholar (i.e., undergraduate or medical professional student).

Q: Will REPID Scholarship affect the scholar's financial aid?

A: The summer stipend and the travel fee will not be affected by the student's financial aid package. However, the amount for room and board will impact the package if the scholar is receiving other financial aid that covers the scholar's summer room and board. The Office of Financial Aid (OFA) will be notified to allow for a revision the scholar's financial aid package according to federal regulations. A REPID scholarship offer does impact the amount of financial assistance the student is eligible to receive from the OFA. Typically REPID scholarship will reduce your need for student loans and thereby reduce your educational indebtedness.

Q: Will scholars receive credit for this research experience?

A: Yes, each scholar must enroll in the MED 492- Basics and Methods in Biomedical Research course for two credits offered in the spring semester. The scholars will be graded on attendance, quizzes, completion of assignments, participation in class discussions, presentation of laboratory skills, and a final written paper. MED 492 is a 2-credit course.

Q: What is (are) the topic of research for scholars?

A: Scholars can focus their research project on any health topic in the area of NHLBI research interests (i.e. pulmonary, cardiovascular, and hematology). There is no restriction on the type of research-it can be bench type, field studies, health services or epidemiological research.

Q: Where will the scholars do their summer research? Do the scholars have to conduct the research work in the MSU community or are able to do the research work in other Institutions/Universities around the US?

A: The research must be at MSU or a MSU affiliated health partner.

Q: Will the scholars conduct research as a group or as an individual?

A: It depends on each scholar's research interest, but mostly individually. The scholar will be placed in a small group of students during the spring term for laboratory training. The goal is to place scholars in a mixed group of undergrads and professional health students to foster learning.

Q: How will the REPID scholars find good mentors?

A: The REPID program has a list of research mentors who have accepted to serve a mentor on this program. The faculty mentors research studies are pertinent to this training program (i.e. pulmonary, cardiovascular, and hematology). Scholars will be assigned to different mentors based on their research interest. REPID is looking forward to hear from other researchers/mentors to participate in this research training.

Q: What are the programs expectations of the selected scholar?

A: The scholars will be informed of and agree to adhere to the “*Mentor and Scholar Expectations Agreement*”. The agreement will be provided to the scholar once admitted to the program or upon request prior to admission. If the scholar or the mentor does not adhere to the agreement, alternative solutions will be discussed. At the start of the program each scholar is expected to develop a research and academic career development plan (RACD Plan), to plan realistic expectation and achievable goals. The scholar will meet with the program director, Dr. Elahé Crockett, regularly throughout the spring/summer to follow the scholar’s progress. The director will discuss the scholars’ laboratory environment, research work, and about their mentor to improve the scholar’s experience. The scholars will meet with their mentors weekly. “Round Table” meetings will be schedule (1-2 per month) to discuss academic career development. “Round Table” meetings will be lead by Dr. Elahě Crockett and program mentors. Along with these meetings, scholars will be providing evaluations of their mentor and the program at the end of their research training.

Q: How will the scholars be evaluated for their summer research?

A: At the end of the summer research training, the scholars will produce a final report of their research activity, including a summary of their research data. Each scholar will also present an oral and poster presentation at the summer research forum. The mentor will also provide an evaluation of the scholar. The scholars can also present a poster at the following April conference at MSU (optional).

Q: How will the short term and long term success of the program be measured?

A: -Short-term outcome: The ability of scholars to indicate competencies in general biomedical research skills, focus research specific skills, responsible conduct in research and career skills.

-Long-term outcome: The REPID program will track the scholars and review their development in 2-3 years. Success will be measure by the scholars continued pursuit of research and work towards their graduate studies and career in a health-related and/or biomedical fields.