

## Enhancing Diversity in the NCI Intramural Research Community



### Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE)

#### What is iCURE?

iCURE is a new program that attracts students and scientists into the multidisciplinary environment of the **NCI Intramural Research Program (IRP)** and supports their mentored experiences.

iCURE is an extension of the NCI **Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities' (CRCHD)** highly successful extramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE) training program. CURE supports the career progress of its scholars toward research independence, as well as fosters diversity in the biomedical research pipeline.

#### What Does iCURE Offer?

The iCURE program provides:

- **One-year awards** for post-baccalaureate (including post-master's) individuals
- **Two-year awards** for graduate students
- **Three-year awards** for postdoctoral fellows

iCURE scholars will also enjoy professional and career support such as:

- Opportunities to work closely with world-class researchers in the NCI IRP
- Support by NCI program staff as well as resources on intramural and extramural funding opportunities
- Professional development activities
- Connections to an extensive mentoring network

#### Am I Eligible?

Eligible candidates include:

- Post-baccalaureate (including post-master's) individuals, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows
- Citizens or non-citizen nationals of the United States or individuals who has been lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States

iCURE strongly encourages the participation of individuals from underrepresented populations and is aligned with NCI's interest in diversity.

#### Where Do I Learn More?

For more information about iCURE, eligibility, and to learn how to apply, please visit:

[www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/icure](http://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/icure)

Prospective candidates are strongly encouraged to contact Dr. Alison Lin at [iCURE@nih.gov](mailto:iCURE@nih.gov).

#### What Types of Research Experiences does iCURE Offer?

iCURE scholars will enjoy research opportunities in the NCI IRP, which includes the Center for Cancer Research (CCR) and the Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG).

CCR conducts **basic and clinical cancer research** and develops breakthrough discoveries into novel therapeutic interventions for adults and children afflicted with cancer or HIV.

DCEG is a global leader in **cancer epidemiology and genetics research**, and is uniquely positioned to conduct projects that are high risk in nature.

#### AT A GLANCE

##### iCURE

Conduct research at the National Cancer Institute

##### Candidates

Post-baccalaureate (including post-master's) individuals, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows

##### Diversity

iCURE strongly encourages the participation of individuals from underrepresented populations

##### Fall 2019 Submission Period

Applications due April 17, 2019. Please check the iCURE web page for updates.

## Becoming an iCURE Scholar

You must submit an application to be considered for an iCURE research experience. Once your application has been submitted, it will be reviewed by iCURE program staff and Principal Investigators (PIs) who are interested in being mentors.

You will complete several interviews during the matching process, both with iCURE staff and PIs. More than one PI may offer to interview you.

Generally, the 2019 application timeline is:



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### *Can I participate in iCURE and continue to conduct research at my current institution?*

No. iCURE supports mentored research experiences within the NCI Intramural Research Program on-site in Bethesda, Rockville, and Frederick, Maryland.

### *When do iCURE research experiences begin?*

iCURE cohorts start on September 1.

### *I have a work permit/student visa, am I eligible for an iCURE award?*

No, iCURE can only support citizens or non-citizen nationals of the U.S. or individuals who have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the U.S.

### *Do iCURE scholars get paid?*

Yes, iCURE scholars receive standard stipends from NIH.

### *Does iCURE pay for relocation or housing expenses?*

No, iCURE does not provide relocation or housing costs.

### *Do I need to identify a mentor whom I wish to work with?*

No, you do not need to identify or contact a PI or group when you apply to the iCURE program. iCURE will help you match with a mentor. However, we encourage you to let us know if there is a specific PI or project you are interested in.

### *Can I interview with more than one potential mentor?*

Yes, you may be offered interviews with more than one PI. Additionally, more than one PI may express interest in you joining their group. You may choose to accept or decline offers.

### *What if the research group I am interested in isn't listed on the iCURE web page?*

Please let us know the group you are interested in and we will follow up.

### *Do I need to submit written recommendations with my application?*

No, you do not need to provide reference letters, only the required information listed on the web page. We will contact references directly for recommendations.

### *Do I need to submit an official transcript by the application deadline?*

No, you may provide an unofficial transcript when you apply. However, you may be asked to provide an official transcript at a later date.

### *What if I need more time to complete my research than the period of support iCURE offers?*

iCURE PIs may choose to continue to support your research past the period of support iCURE provides. You will still be welcome to participate in iCURE activities.

For more detailed information about the application process and program requirements, please visit the iCURE web page or email [iCURE@nih.gov](mailto:iCURE@nih.gov).