

NIH Medical Research Scholars Program

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Medical Research Scholars Program (MRSP) is a comprehensive, year-long residential research enrichment program designed to attract talented medical, dental, and veterinary students to engage in a mentored basic, clinical, or translational research project that matches their professional interests and career goals.

The goal of the program is simple: to train the most promising physicians, dentists and veterinarians in research so they can understand the biological underpinnings of clinical problems and translate basic research into healthcare interventions. The builds on more than 25 years of experience providing exceptional young people with the knowledge and critical skills to conduct biomedical research. At NIH, MRSP Scholars



embark on a journey of discovery and innovation. They are empowered to think creatively and are inspired by scientific leaders who are working on the forefront of scholarship and application. Above all, they are equipped

with the knowledge and tools to transform promising research into lifechanging interventions. Now is the time to invest in the future of medical research in America.

MRSP student scholars experience the full continuum of biomedical research—the bench, the bedside, between both and beyond—from crystallography to molecular biology, from computational biology to clinical trials, epidemiology and public health, i.e., all areas of contemporary biomedical science. Student scholars select mentors who are fulltime NIH investigators at any of 27 different institutes and centers at NIH-Bethesda or one of the satellite campuses with established basic, clinical, or translational research programs.

MRSP By the Numbers (2023-2024)

- Applicants: 124
- Class Size: 52
- Schools: 39
- Gender:
 - o 39 Female (56%)
 - o 23 Male (44%)
- Under-represented minorities: (17%)
- Class distribution (last completed year in school)
 - o 5 Second year students: 10%
 - o 46 Third year: 88%
 - o 1 Fourth year: 2%

Comprehensive Career Development

Mentorship:

In addition to direct mentorship from a seasoned principal investigator in a core investigative experience, each MRSP student scholar is provided a dedicated advisor knowledgeable in their field of interest to help guide their overall career development. There are also extensive networking opportunities to build relationships within the program and beyond.

Academics:

The academic curriculum of the Medical Research Scholars Program offers:

- Biweekly “Process of Discovery” lectures by distinguished investigators on basic, translational and clinical research topics that highlight the continuum of discovery, including issues in bioethics, science policy and emerging technologies. Scholars interact with NIH leaders (institute directors, scientific and clinical directors, and principal investigators) and established investigators from leading national academic medical centers and universities.

- Participation in biweekly Journal Clubs
- Biweekly “Clinical Teaching Rounds” focusing on the research patient population participating in clinical protocols at the NIH Clinical Center
- Monthly “Great Teachers” coffees with invited Clinical Center Grand Rounds Great Teachers
- Workshops in CV writing, Interviewing, professional development, and work-life balance

Enrichment:

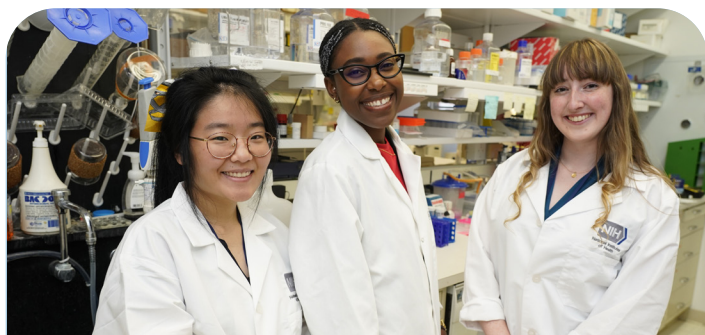
MRSP Scholars also have the opportunity to enroll in graduate courses offered by the Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences, such as bioinformatics, data science, public health, physiology, genetics, and other disciplines.

Benefits

After completing a rigorous application process accepted scholars participate in an on-site Accepted Scholar Day, where they receive direct guidance from the MRSP leadership team about mentor and project selection, but also the logistics of the program.

Through joint support of NIH and FNIH, MRSP provides the following benefits during their year:

- 12-month stipend
- Relocation expenses to/from Bethesda or satellite campuses
- On/Off-campus housing options
- Health insurance
- Domestic conference travel allowance
- Personal education fund for scientific courses and textbooks



MRSP Scholars in the lab.

To learn more about becoming a partner in the MRSP please contact:

The Medical Research Scholars Program is playing a critical role in increasing the talent and diversity of the biomedical research community in our nation. Our mission is to bring highly talented medical, dental, and veterinary students to the NIH for a year of dedicated research training, and immerse them in an environment that is rich in science, mentoring, and collaboration. From this experience, our Scholars enter clinical training inspired to seek careers as clinician-scientists, to turn discovery into health.

— THOMAS R. BURKLOW, M.D., DIRECTOR,
OFFICE OF CLINICAL RESEARCH TRAINING
AND MEDICAL EDUCATION

Opportunities for Involvement

Join the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) in supporting the Medical Research Scholars Program (MRSP) this year, and for years to come. Together, the NIH and its partners—corporations, foundations and philanthropists—can ensure that today’s most talented scholars receive the training and experience they need to become tomorrow’s research leaders. **A gift of \$90,000 will support one scholar for a full program year.** Philanthropic support and grants make the critical difference in sustaining the MRSP and ensuring that the program continues to make an impact. With your investment, these Scholars will help pave the way for the next medical breakthroughs of our time.

👤 Maria Mathews
Strategic Alliances Associate
☎ (301) 594-2612
✉ mmathews@fnih.org

The Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) forges powerful alliances that advance breakthrough biomedical discoveries and improve the quality of people’s lives. As a 501(c)(3) charity chartered by Congress, the FNIH creates and manages these partnerships with public and private institutions in support of the mission of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the world’s premier medical research agency. Convening otherwise diverse or competitive research efforts around a common mission, the FNIH brings dynamism, energy and urgency to finding treatments and cures for patients. Visit <https://fnih.org/>.