Short-Term Research Experience for Underrepresented Persons (STEP-UP) Program

The University of Alabama at Birmingham Minority Health and Health Disparities Research Center (UAB MHRC) invites currently enrolled undergraduate freshmen through juniors to apply to the 2020 STEP-UP Program

The goal of the NIDDK STEP-UP Program is to build and sustain a biomedical, behavioral, clinical and social science research pipeline focused on NIDDK’s core mission areas of diabetes, endocrinology and metabolic diseases; digestive diseases and nutrition; kidney, urologic and hematologic diseases.

**Eligibility Requirements**

- Be currently enrolled as a full-time student at a U.S. accredited 2-year or 4-year college or university
- Have an interest in health-related careers
- Have at least a 3.00 grade point average (GPA)
- Complete online application - Click here to apply – including:
  - A personal statement of no more than 600 words
  - 2 letters of recommendation
    1. Contact two academic references. (Instructions on how to submit online letters of recommendation are provided in the Student Portal website.)
    2. Past STEP-UP participants must have at least one letter from their most recent STEP-UP Research Mentor
    3. The letters of recommendation must be uploaded to the Student Portal by the application deadline. Hard (paper) copies will not be accepted
- An academic transcript which reflects all earned credits and grades through December 2019. Transcripts must be uploaded to your application. Exceptions made for high school students only.
- Submit a resume
- Have personal medical/health insurance coverage throughout the duration of the program (exceptions may be granted for students living in the Pacific Islands)

Applicants must also meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Come from racial and ethnic groups that have been shown by the National Science Foundation to be underrepresented in biomedical sciences on a national basis
- Come from a disadvantaged background as defined by annual family income and/or be the first generation in their family to graduate from a four-year college or university
- Have been diagnosed with a disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities
- For more on eligibility see the FAQ

To be considered for this program, students must adhere to the procedures outlined in the application.

We encourage qualified students of all majors to apply.

*Applications must be received by February 1, 2020.*