SEARCH Demographic Information Form

Submit the application by April 3 to Raphael.Franzini@utah.edu

Application documents:

- Application form
- Statement of motivation (see instructions below)
- One letter of support
- Unofficial transcript
- Demographic information form

Selection criteria: SEARCH participants will be selected based on a holistic evaluation of all aspects of the application portfolio. While we do consider grades as a measurement for the preparedness to participate in SEARCH, decisions will not be made using grades as the principal parameter. Instead, we will consider all elements of the application portfolio to assess a student’s motivation, readiness, and potential to expand diversity in the sciences.

There are likely more applicants than we can accommodate. The inability of SEARCH to host a student does in no way reflect on the student’s potential for a scientific career.

Statement of motivation: The statement of motivation should be one page or less (Arial, 12 pt; 1-inch margins; handwritten statements will be accepted). Please express your motivation to participate in SEARCH. Possible topics may include your enthusiasm for research (in general and for chemical biology in particular), your academic/professional ambitions, and previous exposure to sciences. Please explain if there have been unusual circumstances, which have affected your academic career. If applicable, elaborate on how your participation would contribute to the mission of the NSF and NIH to promote underrepresented demographics in the sciences. Additional comments you consider pertinent/important to this application.

Letter of support: While anyone with knowledge of your qualification for participation in SEARCH may write a letter of support, such letters are typically provided by science teachers. Family members are excluded as writers of letters of support. Letter writers are encouraged to emphasize unusual circumstances, which have affected your academic career. Letter writers must send the letter of support directly to Raphael.Franzini@utah.edu.

Transcript: Submit an unofficial copy of your latest transcript.
SEARCH Demographic Information Form

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Email: ________________________________________________________________

Current grade level:

☐ Senior
☐ Junior
☐ Sophomore
☐ Other: __________________________

Priority will be given to students that are currently in the Junior grade or the adjacent levels. Students that are freshmen or in lower grades may apply, but will likely be asked to reapply in future years.

What science-related classes are you currently enrolled in (if more classes than lines, list the most relevant ones):

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________

What science-related classes have you been enrolled in past years (add grades; if more classes than lines, list the most relevant ones):

____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Please confirm the following statements by initialing:

I am available to participate in SEARCH during the period of June 14 to July 23. _____

I am available to be present at standard office hours during this period. _____

I am aware that working in a research lab is associated with risks. _____

I will comply with all regulations of the University of Utah, the guidelines of the SEARCH program, and the instruction of research mentors. _____

If you have not confirmed any of these statements but nonetheless would like to be considered for participation in SEARCH, provide a brief explanation on an additional page.

With the signature below, I acknowledge that all information provided in this application is correct.

Signature
Date

For applicants younger than 18 years:

Confirmation of parent or legal guardian that the student has the permission to participate in SEARCH.

Print name
Relationship to student

Signature
Date
Purpose: SEARCH is committed to encourage students from backgrounds that are underrepresented in the sciences to participate in research. The information below is needed to ensure that this program meets the guidelines defined by the NIH and the NSF that sponsor SEARCH. Answering any questions on this form is voluntary.

Gender:

- □ Female
- □ Male
- □ Non-binary
- □ Not listed: ________________
- □ Prefer not to reply

Racial and ethnic: The following racial and ethnic groups have been found to be underrepresented in biomedical research:

- o Black or African American
- o Hispanic Chicanx, or LatinX
- o American Indian or Alaska Native
- o Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

- □ Applies to me  □ Does not apply to me

Individuals with disabilities: Defined as those who are neurodiverse or with a physical or mental disability that substantially limits one or more major life activities (see Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended)

- □ Applies to me  □ Does not apply to me
Low social economic status (past or present): According to NIH criteria defined as those who meet two or more of the following criteria (https://diversity.nih.gov/about-us/population-underrepresented):

- Were or currently are homeless (as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act)
- Were or currently are in the foster care system (as defined by the Administration for Children and Families)
- Were eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program for two or more years
- Were or currently are eligible for Federal Pell grants
- Received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) as a parent or child
- Have/had no parents or legal guardians who completed a bachelor’s degree

☐ Applies to me

☐ Does not apply to me

- Grew up in a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services-designated Low-Income and Health Professional Shortage Areas. Qualified zipcodes include: 84116, 84104, 84044, 84120, 84128, 84119, 84129, 84123, 84101, 84111, 84102, 84112, 84106, 84107, 84124.

☐ I meet two or more of these criteria

☐ I meet zero or one of these criteria