

## **BCCC-CURE Summer Doctoral Student Research Mentoring Initiative**

### **2024 Request for Proposals**

*Funds to support doctoral--student mentored undergraduate research at Brooklyn College Cancer Center*

**Application deadline:** April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024



Undergraduates interested in research benefit from immersive research experiences that deepen their understanding of the role of research in understanding scientific processes. Here BCCC-CURE (via the Gray Foundation) has created an initiative to support **doctoral-student led undergraduate summer opportunities in different areas of research**, with one undergraduate researcher mentored by one doctoral student. By offering this tiered mentorship structure, the mentoring initiative prepares undergraduates to conduct independent research in a collaborative environment while training the Doctoral Researchers to become successful mentors. We particularly encourage projects that expose undergraduates to the pathway from research to impact.

Diversity, inclusion, and economic justice are central to the mission of BCCC-CURE and The Gray Foundation. We seek to fund proposals/mentors that demonstrate a commitment to these values. This contribution may be through a diverse research team that includes diverse voices and perspectives to the project and/or prioritizes underserved, underrepresented, or historically excluded groups or communities.

### **Award Information**

- \$4,500.00 stipend to support CUNY Brooklyn College Doctoral students for mentoring undergraduate research projects over the summer, (8) weeks. We anticipate making three payments in Summer 2024.

### **Eligibility**

- Any matriculated doctoral student conducting research in the laboratory of a BCCC-CURE PI.
- Recruited Brooklyn College undergraduates are eligible to participate any summer prior to graduation.
- In the Mentoring-initiative proposal, one doctoral-student researcher should be identified as the primary mentor to provide day-to-day interaction with undergraduates.
- PIs will meet weekly with doctoral mentors to provide feedback and mentor training.

- Doctoral mentors are expected to be on location with the undergraduates during the summer of the mentoring-initiative.

## How to Apply

The application is brief and consists of two sections:

- **Contact Information** (1 page)
  - Include basic contact information, project title, graduate program, and year in graduate program, name of your PI.
  - If you are a doctoral student underrepresented in biomedical research indicate this.
- **Application text:**
  - Upload a single PDF document (saved as *Last Name-First Name.pdf* ) and submitted via email with the subject “Mentoring Initiative” to [BCCC-CURE@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:BCCC-CURE@brooklyn.cuny.edu),
  - Your application text must include the page with the contact information as well the sections described below.

**Application text sections:** three (3) pages total (excluding timeline, CV and Statement of PI).

1. A one (1) paragraph summary of the proposed research.
2. A one (1) paragraph summary of mentoring philosophy.
3. Description of Proposed Project: a brief description of the mentoring project(s) and their contribution to the mission of the Gray Foundation and BCCC-CURE.
4. Mentoring Plan: How will undergraduate research be meaningfully mentored within a collaborative research environment? Briefly describe the structure, roles, primary responsibilities, meeting frequency, etc.
5. DEI: Describe how this project and mentoring initiative will support The Gray Foundation and BCCC-CURE’s mission to create a diverse cohort of next-generation scholars. For example: How will economically-disadvantaged Brooklyn College students benefit from this mentoring experience to enhance their scientific trajectory? How will Doctoral students benefit and progress in the STEM pipeline via their experience as mentors?
6. Timeline: Provide the ideal start and end dates of the project, including key activity milestones.
7. Current curriculum vitae.
8. Statement of PI Commitment to the mentoring initiative.

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## Award Timeline

- **January 25th:** Call for proposals
- **April 1st, 5:00 P.M. ET:** Deadline for proposal submission
- **May 1st 2024:** Estimated notification date
- **June 1, 2024** Earliest project start date

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*All proposal materials MUST be received by 5:00 PM ET on April 1st, 2024*

Please direct questions to: [BCCC-CURE-vice-director@brooklyn.cuny.edu](mailto:BCCC-CURE-vice-director@brooklyn.cuny.edu), subject header: Doctoral Student Mentoring Award