

VUMC Limited Submission Opportunity

NIH Blueprint and BRAIN Initiative for Enhancing Neuroscience Diversity through Undergraduate Research Education Experiences (BP BRAIN-ENDURE)

(R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)

Applications due November 5, 2024

VUMC: These instructions are for VUMC investigators. VU investigators should apply through [InfoReady](#) and address any questions to VU-LSO@vanderbilt.edu.

VUMC may submit **one application** to the [NIH Blueprint and BRAIN Initiative Program for Enhancing Neuroscience Diversity through Undergraduate Research Education Experiences \(BP BRAIN-ENDURE\)](#) program. The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The overarching goal of this R25 program is to support educational activities that encourage individuals from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, to pursue further studies or careers in research.

To accomplish the stated over-arching goal, this NOFO will support educational activities with a primary focus on:

- **Courses for Skills Development**
- **Research Experiences**
- **Mentoring Activities**

The fully integrated educational activities should prepare undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds, including those from groups underrepresented in biomedical and behavioral sciences, to enter Ph.D. degree programs in the neurosciences. To accomplish this goal, this initiative will provide institutional awards to develop neuroscience research education programs comprised of collaborative partnerships integrated across different educational institution types.

Each partnership must include:

a) one or more institutions that either: 1) have a historical and current mission to educate students from any of the populations that have been identified as underrepresented in biomedical research as defined by the National Science Foundation (NSF), see <http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/wmpd/> (i.e., African Americans or Blacks, Hispanic or Latino Americans, American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, U.S. Pacific Islanders, and persons with disabilities) or 2) have a documented track record of recruiting, training and/or educating, and graduating underrepresented students as defined by NSF (see above), which has

resulted in a historically documented contribution by the institution to the national pool of graduates from underrepresented backgrounds who pursue biomedical research careers;

b) a research-intensive institution that has an established neuroscience or neuroscience-related program;

c) integrated curriculum/academic enhancement and research experience activities designed to increase participants' preparation to enter doctoral programs in the neurosciences; and

d) well-described plans to provide early communication and interaction between participating students and graduate neuroscience programs across the country.

Award Information

Although the size of award may vary with the scope of the research education program proposed and there are no specific budget limitations, the requested direct costs must be reasonable, well documented, fully justified and commensurate with the scope of the proposed program. The average cost per program is estimated between \$300K - \$400K direct costs per year. The total project period for an application submitted in response to this funding opportunity may not exceed 5 years.

See the [program announcement](#) for full program details.

Internal Application Instructions

Anyone interested in being considered to submit VUMC's proposal must submit the following (in a single PDF) to LSO@vanderbilt.edu by **5 p.m. on November 5, 2024**:

1. Brief (2-page maximum) research plan including summary budget;
2. Statement of support from department chair/center director;
3. NIH Biosketch

The chosen nominee will submit a proposal to the sponsor by the deadline of February 10, 2025.

Any questions about this opportunity may be directed to LSO@vanderbilt.edu.