

UCLA PREP

Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program

University of California, Los Angeles

2007

Program Purpose

The goal of UCLA PREP is to prepare a small cohort of baccalaureate recipients for successful entry into and completion of a graduate program in the biomedical sciences. Scholars will devote 75% of their time performing research with an experienced faculty mentor and the remainder to appropriate coursework, workshops, seminars, journal club, etc.

The specific objectives are:

- (1) to heighten scholars' interest in a career in biomedical research;
- (2) to ensure scholars' academic preparation for entry and success in graduate school;
- (3) to enhance scholars' performance on standardized tests (GRE);
- (4) to enhance scholars' academic skills essential for success in graduate programs; and
- (5) to develop scholars' research skills necessary for success in graduate school and a research career.

Each PREP Scholar will develop an academic and research plan to prepare them for admission and success in an appropriate graduate program in consultation with their faculty research mentor and the PREP Program Director.

Eligibility

To be eligible for participation in the program as a PREP scholar, individuals from underrepresented minority groups must have graduated with a baccalaureate degree in a biomedically relevant science from an accredited U.S. college or university no more than 36 months prior to applying to PREP. All individuals selected as scholars must intend to apply, within two years, for graduate education that will eventually lead to the research doctorate. In addition, PREP scholars must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

The aim is to select individuals who are interested in pursuing graduate education but might not be competitive for admission without further mentored preparation and assistance. Examples include students whose undergraduate experience did not provide a broad exposure to the biomedical sciences or significant opportunities to engage in undergraduate research.

Program Expectations

The expectations of the program are substantial and require full-time commitment. Each participant must attend all required activities (formal and informal).

Financial Support

Scholars will be compensated at a level of \$21,000 per year. All educational costs, including tuition for appropriate coursework, will be covered by the program.

How To Apply

A complete application must include the following:

1. A complete application form.
2. A personal statement.
3. Academic transcript(s).
4. One letter of recommendation from someone that knows you well – e.g. a professor or teacher who can address your interest in science and your academic abilities.

All documents must be returned to:

UCLA PREP
Attn: Professor Richard L. Weiss
Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry
Box 951569
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1569

For more information and questions, please contact:

Professor Richard L. Weiss
310/825-3621
weiss@chem.ucla.edu

Deadline

The deadline for receipt of all application materials and supporting documents is **Monday, March 5, 2007**. Some applicants may be invited to an interview in March. All applicants will be notified of their program status by April 2.

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Application Form

Please complete this form and return it with your personal statement, transcript, and letter of recommendation to UCLA PREP, Attn: Professor Richard L. Weiss, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry, Box 951569, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1569.

All application materials must be received no later than March 5, 2007.

(1) General Information (please type or print neatly in black ink)

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ M.I. _____

Current Address _____
street address apt. # city zip code

Current Phone # _____ Email Address _____

Ethnicity: _____ Black/African American
_____ Caucasian
_____ Chicano/Mexican American
_____ Latino/a
_____ Multi-racial (please specify) _____
_____ Native Alaskan (indicate tribal affiliation) _____
_____ Native American (indicate tribal affiliation) _____
_____ Pilipino
_____ Pacific Islander (please specify) _____
_____ Puerto Rican
_____ Other (please specify) _____

What are your academic and career plans:

Advanced Degree Objective: _____ Teaching Credential
_____ Masters
_____ Ph.D.
_____ M.D.
_____ M.D./Ph.D.
_____ Other (please specify) _____

(2) Short Answer Questions

List any employment/work-study positions, honors, awards, prizes or recognition over the past two years (*indicate dates and duration*).

List extracurricular and community activities you have participated in during the past two years (*indicate dates and duration*).

What other attributes or personal experiences have you had that you feel we should know about in considering this application?

(3) Personal Statement

On a separate sheet, describe how do you expect UCLA PREP to facilitate your academic and career goals. (~500 words)

(4) Transcript

Submit a Transcript with your application.

I hereby certify to the best of my knowledge that all information submitted is complete and correct. I also certify that I have read the material regarding UCLA PREP and agree to abide by it if selected. I understand that failure to disclose accurate information is grounds for immediate termination from this program.

Signature _____

Date _____

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Letter of Recommendation

Applicant: Complete this section only. Type legibly all requested information. Give this form and a self-addressed envelope to the person you have asked to recommend you. The recommender should return the completed form to you in a signed-sealed envelope for inclusion with your other application materials.

Applicant's Name (*First/Middle/Last*) _____

Major _____

Recommender's Name _____

Recommender's Department _____

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 you may waive your right to inspect this recommendation by signing the statement below. Should you decide not to waive the right, you will have access to the recommendation if you become a program participant.

I hereby waive my right of access to this information.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Recommender: Please type or print legibly in black ink.

How long and in what capacity have you known this applicant?

Using a 10 point scale, please rate this applicant

Poor (1-3) Fair (4-5) Good (6-7) Excellent (8-9) Outstanding (10) Not able to judge (N/A)

Academic Performance _____

Intellectual Potential _____

Creativity and Originality _____

Motivation for Graduate Study* _____

*Versus aspiration to attend Professional School

(Recommendation continues on back)

On this form, please write candidly about the student's qualifications and potential for research as well as academic success. In describing such attributes as motivation, intellect and maturity, discuss both strong and weak points.

Recommender's Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____ Title _____

Phone Number _____
area code *number*

Email Address _____

Institution Name _____

Institution Address _____
Number/Street

_____ *City* *State* *Postal Code*