



Undergraduates Gaining Research Opportunities For the Cancer Workforce U-GROW

U-GROW is a partnership between **Cedars-Sinai Cancer Center** in Los Angeles and eight greater Los Angeles-area campuses of the **California State University** system. We are an undergraduate research education program whose goal is to diversify the public health workforce. Through internships, mentorship, and training we prepare promising college students from communities disproportionately affected by cancer health disparities for research careers that promote health equity.

U-GROW is a **year-round commitment**. We will accept a cohort of 15 scholars to begin in Summer 2023.

Summer Program Components

Summer Institute (40 hrs)

- June 6-10, 2023 on Cedars-Sinai's campus
- A week-long introduction to cancer disparities research, diverse researcher role models, and a network of supportive and motivated peers

Summer Internship (20-40 hrs/week)

- 180-360 hour paid internship with a Cedars-Sinai researcher (minimum 20 hrs/week for 9 weeks total)
- Internships will expose scholars to cancer disparities research and introduce them to research methods & ethics
- Internships are paid, so holding full-time employment over the summer is strongly discouraged.
- Successful completion of the internship depends on a satisfactory evaluation from your mentor and your participation in an end-of-summer poster presentation



Scholars-in-Training Meetings & Presentation at Summer Poster Session (30 hrs)

- 2-hour biweekly cohort meetings over the duration of the internship period.
- Led by U-GROW's Internship Coordinator, scholars will educate each other on the projects they are working on in order to develop a broader understanding of cancer disparities research
- Scholars will prepare a poster for an end-of-summer poster session

Fall, Winter, Spring Program Components

Monthly Virtual Scientific Communications Workshops (40 hrs)

- A community of practice for writing, speaking, and presenting about science
- Prepare and workshop documents for admission to graduate programs (personal statement, statement of research interests)

Virtual Roundtable Discussions (10 hrs)

- Learn skills for navigating academia, finding mentorship, and building a support network

Graduate Application Support Award (GASA)

- \$500 support scholarship covers application costs and exam preparation costs.



How to Apply

Check Your Program Eligibility

1. CSU Juniors, seniors, or alumni within one year of graduation from Cal Poly Pomona, Channel Islands, Dominguez Hills, Fullerton, Los Angeles, Long Beach, Northridge, San Bernardino
2. Good academic standing (minimum GPA of 3.0)
3. Strong communication and organizational skills
4. An interest in learning about cancer disparities and cancer control research is required. Research experience is *not* required.

Attend a U-GROW Information Session to learn about the program and hear application tips

- FRIDAY, November 11 @ 1-2 pm Pacific Time - [Zoom link here](#)
- MONDAY, November 28 @ 10:30-11:30 am Pacific Time - [Zoom link here](#)
- SATURDAY, December 17 @ 10:30- 11:30 am Pacific Time - [Zoom link here](#)

Mark Your Calendar

Applications open	November 1, 2022
Application materials due	January 7, 2023 at 11: 59 PST
Selected scholars announced	January 27, 2023
Internship placement process	February 3 – February 24, 2023
Internship placements confirmed	February 24, 2023
U-GROW Summer Institute	June 6 – 10, 2023
Internship period	June 12 – August 2023

[Get in touch with questions or subscribe to program updates here.](#)
[And please give us a follow on Instagram \(@ugrow_publichealth\) & LinkedIn](#)

Application Timeline & Checklist:

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

- Read through the entire information page; there will be a test. Just kidding.
- Make sure you meet eligibility requirements
- Carefully consider the hour estimates below. **Can you make U-GROW a priority?** While we strive to be flexible to accommodate scholars who work part-time or have caretaking responsibilities, all components of the program are required.
 - Summer Institute: 40 hrs total - Tuesday, June 6 - Saturday, June 10th, 2023
 - Summer Internship: 20-40 hours a week for 9 weeks (June-August)
 - Scholars-in-Training Meetings & Poster Prep: 30 hours total
 - Year-Round Curriculum (Scientific Communication Workshops & Roundtable Discussions): 2-4 hours a month for 9 months
- [Sign up for our program mailing list here](#). And you can follow us @ugrow_publichealth!



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

- Attend a U-GROW Virtual Information Session
- Gather the components of your application. You will need:
 - A CV or resume
 - An unofficial transcript for GPA verification
 - Educational history
 - A list of relevant academic and non-academic volunteer or work experiences or other positions of responsibility
 - Writing samples (prompts will be provided on the application)
- Identify a CSU faculty member to nominate your application & send them this link. They will not be required to write a letter. We ask that they fill out this brief form instead.

JANUARY

- Submit your application by January 7, 11:59 PM PST [link here](#)
- Remind your nominator to submit their nomination form [link here](#)