Funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and designed to support recent underrepresented college graduates, Case Western Reserve University’s Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP) offers paid research experience with seasoned investigators to prepare you for a future in biomedical research.

Program Overview

As the largest biomedical research institution in Ohio, and a top-25 medical school, CWRU’s School of Medicine has the faculty, staff and dynamic laboratory settings to provide you with a well-rounded training program, including:

- One-year employment in research,
- Graduate level coursework,
- Research presentations,
- Weekly program meetings,
- One-on-one mentorings, and
- Biomedical PhD application step-by-step guidance.

Additionally, PREP scholars are supported through:

- A competitive stipend,
- Free tuition,
- Access to health insurance and student facilities, and
- Trips to national meetings.

Research Examples:

During our one-year program, you’ll conduct research alongside highly skilled faculty mentors, assigned based on your research interests.

Recent examples of faculty research areas include:

- William Bush, PhD - Bioinformatics and human genetics
- Aaron Burberry, PhD - Neurodegenerative disease
- Marcin Golczak, PhD - Ocular physiology and health
- Alex Huang, MD, PhD - Immune activation in the pathogenesis of cancer
- Alan Levine, PhD - Intestinal immunity
- Jason Mears, PhD - Neurodegeneration and cancer
- Sam Mesiano, PhD - Hormonal interactions in human birth
- Helen Miranda, PhD - Spinal bulbar muscular atrophy and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
- Derek Taylor, PhD - Telomeres and telomerase
- Erika Trapl, PhD - Community-based approaches to cancer prevention and screening
- David Wald, MD, PhD - Acute myeloid leukemia (AML)
- Dhananjay Yellajoshyula, PhD - Cellular and transcriptional mechanisms
To Apply, You’l Need:

The PREP application has a priority deadline of Jan. 31 and a final deadline of March 15.

Applicants to PREP must meet the following requirements:

- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident,
- Belong to an underrepresented minority, disabled, or disadvantaged group as defined by the NIH
- Have a strong desire and commitment to pursue a PhD in the biomedical sciences
- Be a senior about to graduate with a baccalaureate degree in biology or chemistry, or have attained such a degree 36 months prior to the date of submission of application to PREP
- Have some, but perhaps limited, research experience

Study in Cleveland

Case Western Reserve University is a top research university located in Cleveland, Ohio, just 5 miles east of downtown. We’re situated in the heart of University Circle, one of the city’s most energetic and culturally robust communities—not to mention a hub of world-class healthcare institutions, including Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, MetroHealth System and Louis Stokes VA Medical Center. Ranked as one of the country’s most livable cities, Cleveland has plenty to offer—come see for yourself!

Ready to learn more? Reach out to us at caseprep@case.edu or get more information at case.edu/medicine/prep.