

SUMMER FUNDING APPLICATION

Summer Assistantship (SA) Funding

SA funding is available for intensive 8-10-week summer projects (Summer Assistantships) taking place under the mentorship of a Brown faculty member. Projects can range from traditional bench research, to advocacy work, to the creative arts but must be related in some way to health and medicine. Work may be in-person, remote, or hybrid, depending on project requirements. Funding may be used to support an independent project, a longer-term [Scholarly Concentrations](#) project or an [Emerging Infectious Disease Scholars](#) (EIDS) project. Students receive \$3,750 but are eligible for additional funding outside of Brown. SAs are not taxed. As part of the Summer Assistantship Program, students are required to submit a progress report upon the return to 2nd year. The progress report is a one page update on the status of your project. Failure to complete your progress report or your project will result in the need to return your original stipend. Typically, about 80% of applications are funded annually. For more information please see:

<https://studentaffairs.med.brown.edu/enrichment/summer-assistantships>

The Basic and Translational Research (BTR) Program

The BTR Program links medical students with faculty and their research projects on the molecular basis and pathobiology of cardiovascular, blood, and pulmonary diseases and related conditions, and/or the outcomes of prevention and treatment of these diseases. Funded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, the BTR Program is a longitudinal experience that includes didactic training and a mentored research experience, with a goal of promoting the career development of potential physician researchers. Stipends of \$4,471 are available for students undertaking a 10-week BTR summer project. Students are required to be in-person. Approximately 12 students are awarded grants each year. The IRS considers BTR stipends to be taxable income. Students receiving a BTR stipend are not eligible for additional outside funding. For more information, please see:

<https://studentaffairs.med.brown.edu/enrichment/basic-translational-research-program>

Application Submission and Criteria

Applications must include:

- Letter(s) of support from a faculty mentor (primary mentor must be at Brown but additional faculty mentors from other institutions are permitted)
- Evidence of IRB or IACUC approval or plans to obtain approvals (if necessary)
- Faculty Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement submitted by the faculty mentor (link to form available on <https://studentaffairs.med.brown.edu/enrichment/summer-assistantships>)
- Project overview written by the applicant with assistance from the mentor

All application materials must be submitted by email to medstudentaffairs@brown.edu in a single pdf no later than noon on February 5, 2023. For application criteria for SA and BTR proposals, please see: <https://studentaffairs.med.brown.edu/enrichment/summer-assistantships>.

Letter(s) of Support

The letter of support must be from a Brown faculty mentor who will be supervising or overseeing the work. (If the summer project includes travel to a foreign country, an additional letter must be submitted from the contact at the international site, and the letter of support from the Brown faculty mentor must attest to the project's feasibility and a plan to monitor the applicant's progress from off-site.) Letter writers must include the following in the letter:

- Mentor's name, email, phone, department, institution, and address

- Name of applicant to be mentored and title of project
- Statement that necessary IRB and/or IACUC protocols are already approved or description of plans to obtain approval prior to start of summer project
- Brief overview of proposed project and student's role, including a statement that mentor and student have met to discuss the project prior to application submission
- Goals for student's learning and mentor's view of educational value of project
- Mentoring plan (e.g. information regarding mentor's relationship to student, extent to which mentor and student collaborated on summer plan, frequency of meetings planned for the summer, etc.)

IRB/IACUC Approval

If the project involves human subjects or animal subjects, the applicant must include in their application that they have begun the approval process from the Brown University IRB or IACUC or provide evidence of IRB or IACUC approval if it has already been granted. For human subjects, this includes data collection from living individuals through interaction or intervention, or data collection of identifiable, private information through secondary data analysis. IRB or IACUC approval must be in place prior to the commencement of the summer project, so early proposal submission (three months prior to the start of your project) is key.

Project Overview

Student applicant:

- Name:
- Email:
- Project title:
- Type of funding requested (SA or BTR):
- Does project require international travel?

Mentor (please list the following your primary Brown University faculty mentor and any additional mentors):

- Name:
- Email:
- Phone:
- Department and institution:
- Address (street, city, state, zip code):

Please provide a narrative (maximum of three pages single-spaced, not including the bibliography) that includes:

1. Title
2. Project duration (beginning and end dates of summer work)
3. Overview of proposed project (include information on plans for international travel if applicable)
4. Background and rationale (the context of the work and how the project will contribute to general knowledge of the topic and/or contribute to the target community)
5. Project goals and hypothesis
6. Project methodology (description of methods, including your data collection and analysis plans, and your role in the project)
7. Expected outcomes, potential problems/limitations, and alternative strategies

8. Personal development (description of ways in which this project fits into applicant's personal development and educational goals; include information about any ways in which the project work will continue beyond the summer if applicable)
9. Other funding (other sources to which the applicant has applied or plans to apply)