

APPLICATION: NIH MS BRIDGES to PhD (B2D) PROGRAM

The overall goal of this B2D program between California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (CPP, the MS granting and lead institution in this grant) and the University of California, Riverside (UCR, PhD granting institution partner) is to increase the number of Masters of Science (MS) students from underrepresented (URM) racial and ethnic groups, low socio-economic backgrounds and those with disabilities, who successfully transition to PhD programs in biomedical research via an **asset-oriented, student-centered collaborative mentoring system**.

First Summer (starting June 3, 2024)	
<u>Weeks 1 & 2</u> 9AM-5PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday-Thurs: Molecular Biology Techniques workshops • Friday: Professional Skills Workshops (2 hours per workshop) • Begin work on Individual Development Plan (IDP) with CPP & UCR faculty
<u>Week 3-10</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Research with CPP Faculty in coordination with UCR Faculty (40h/week) & Research Presentation at symposium on week 10.
Academic Year 1 (August through May)	
Fall, & Spring Semesters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPP MS research projects and academic coursework • Introduce CPP STEM undergraduates to benefits of B2D experience through peer mentoring, guest speaker seminars (3-4 per Semester), and selected workshops. • Continue work on IDP.
Fall Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesdays 5:00PM-6:50PM (<u>2 unit-CPP BIO 6800 B2D PhD Applications</u> – Dr. Nancy Buckley); Fridays 1PM-3:50PM (<u>3 unit-CPP BIO 5900 B2D Grant writing & Seminars</u> – Dr. Frances Mercer).
Spring Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesdays 5:00PM-6:50PM (<u>2 unit-CPP BIO 5990 B2D Writing a Scientific Manuscript</u> – Dr. Nancy Buckley); Fridays 1PM-3:50PM (3 unit-CPP BIO-5990 B2D Biomedical Career Discovery and seminars – Dr. Frances Mercer). • Present research at STEM local, state and/or national meetings. • Begin writing MS Thesis work
Second Summer (June to August-10 weeks)	
10 weeks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct research in laboratory of UCR FRM; Give oral research presentation at UCR and CPP summer symposia; Continue work on IDP
Academic Year 2 (August through May)	
Fall and Spring Semesters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPP MS research projects and academic coursework • Introduce CPP STEM undergraduates to benefits of B2D experience through peer mentoring, guest speaker seminars (3-4 per Semester), and selected workshops. • Continue work on IDP and continue writing MS Thesis work.
Fall Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete and submit PhD applications • UCR predoctoral graduate course enrollment • Wednesdays 5:00PM-6:50PM (<u>2 unit-CPP BIO 6800 B2D PhD Applications</u> – Dr. Nancy Buckley); Fridays 1PM-3:50PM (<u>3 unit-CPP BIO 5900 B2D Biomedical Literature and seminars</u> – Dr. Frances Mercer).
Spring Semester	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesdays 5:00PM-6:50PM (<u>2 unit-CPP BIO 5990 B2D Thesis Writing</u> – Dr. Nancy Buckley); Fridays 1PM-3:50PM (3 unit-CPP BIO-5990 B2D Biomedical Journal Club and seminars – Dr. Frances Mercer). • Go to PhD program Interviews. • Present research at STEM local, state and/or national meetings. • Complete MS Thesis work and • Defend MS Thesis

B2D Eligibility and Application Requirements:

- Bachelor’s of Science (BS) in a STEM discipline with a Science GPA of 3.0 or better.
- Admittance into the CPP MS program with full time status. Working outside of B2D program not allowed.
- Underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, low socio-economic backgrounds and/or those with disabilities
- U.S citizen or student with permanent visa seeking to pursue a PhD degree in the biomedical and related sciences.
- Applicants should send the completed application form, their personal statement, diversity statement and research statement (see below on guide to write one-page statements), a copy of their complete transcript (pdf format), along with 3 letters of recommendation electronically to the Program Administrator, Ms. Airan Alvarado-Jansen (adalvarado@cpp.edu).
- Deadline for applications is April 5, 2024.**

Note: Students on a pre-medical track (MD) are not eligible for this program, as indicated by NIH.

Applicant Information

Name: _____

Bronco ID: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone (Mobile): _____

CPP Email (required): _____

Alternative Email (required): _____

US Citizen Permanent Resident

Gender: Female Male Other

Are you a member of any of the following groups underrepresented in the biomedical sciences?

- African American
- American Indian/Native American/Alaskan
- Native Hispanic/ Latino
- U.S Pacific Islander
- Low socio-economic
- background Disabled

Are you a first-generation college graduate student in your family? Yes No

Information about your undergraduate degree

Major/Minor in STEM _____

Institution _____

Date conferred (or degree awarded): _____

Overall GPA, Science GPA _____

Degree: AA BA BS

Answer the following questions if you already have a Graduate degree

Indicate type of Graduate degree: _____

Institution/Program: _____

Date degree conferred _____

Other degrees

Have you already applied to the Graduate Program at Cal Poly Pomona? Yes No

If yes, do you have a sponsor/mentor? Yes No

Name of mentor: _____

Expected date of CPP MS graduation: _____

Achievements and Activities within the last 5 years

- List achievements, honors and awards
- List other activities, clubs, organizations, leadership

Personal, Diversity and Research statements demonstrating your strong interest in pursuing a PhD in biomedical research

The selection committee seeks a description of your professional interests and plans, your goals for advanced degrees and research, and the appropriateness of this program to help you achieve your objectives.

Write your Personal Statement, Diversity Statement and Research Statement.

Note: For each statement, use 12-point font, 1-inch margins and can be single spaced and no more than 1 page.

Personal Statement:

1. Describe what your long-term career goal is and what educational plans you have to pursue this career.
2. Write about experiences related to who you are and how they shaped your interest in STEM.
3. What character traits do you possess that you think are important for PhD students to have?
4. Discuss any other relevant information that you feel the selection committee should take into consideration when assessing your application, including disadvantages or hardships that you have overcome, professional achievements worthy of mention, etc.

Diversity Statement

1. Why do you want to participate in the B2D program and how will your participation increase the representation of underrepresented individuals in biomedical research?
2. Discuss any other relevant information that you feel the selection committee should take into consideration when assessing your application, including disadvantages or hardships that you have overcome, professional achievements worthy of mention, etc.

Research Statement

1. Have you had any independent research experience in the past? If so, please provide a brief description.
2. Discuss any other relevant information that you feel the selection committee should take into consideration when assessing your experience in research.

Letters of Recommendation

Please have three letters of recommendation sent by email to the Program Administrator, Ms. Jansen (adalvarado@cpp.edu). Letters should be on a letterhead and should be from a science faculty member, investigator or employer who is qualified to comment on your attributes and can comment on your potential for success in the B2D program.

Checking the four boxes below and typing your name and date will be considered your digital signature.

- I hereby certify and declare that all the above information is true.
- If selected, I will participate in all associated B2D activities, including but not limited to workshops, meetings, journal clubs, laboratory research at CPP and UCR, professional development activities at CPP and UCR, and evaluation activities designed to assess program effectiveness and my own educational progress.
- I recognize that I have waived access to the letters of recommendation in my file.
- I recognize that the Bridges program will track my progress for 15 years following completion of the program to investigate the impact of this program on my subsequent academic and professional development.

Signature

Date

Application Checklist (Incomplete applications will not be considered)

- Application form
- Personal, Diversity & Research Statements
- Undergraduate and/or Graduate Transcripts
- Three letters of recommendation