

## **WHAT IS U-RISE?**

**Undergraduate Training Initiative for Research Enhancement (U-RISE)** Program is a special training program administered by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences in collaboration with other components of the National Institutes of Health. Goals of the program are:

- to increase the number of capable under represented scientists engaged in biomedical research, and
- to strengthen science curricula and research opportunities at institutions with substantial minority enrollment in order to prepare students for careers in biomedical research.

CSUN has been awarded an **Undergraduate Student Training in Academic Research (U-RISE)** program to support research training for honors undergraduates in their last two years of their undergraduate careers. The U-RISE program at CSUN is ***specifically designed to prepare students to compete successfully for entry into graduate programs leading to the Ph.D. or combined M.D./Ph.D. degree in basic biomedical science***. Grants cover tuition and fees, a monthly stipend, and trainee-related expenses for research supplies and travel.

## **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

Current CSUN students considered underrepresented in the field of biomedical research as described by the National Institutes of Health, who are declared majors in the College of Science and Mathematics, Department of Health Sciences, Department of Kinesiology, and Department of Psychology are eligible. A cumulative grade point average of **3.0 is required**, as well as a desire to obtain a Ph.D. Applicant must be at least a **junior and two years from graduating**.

**Citizenship:** The individual to be trained must be a citizen or a non-citizen national of the United States or have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence at the time of appointment in the case of an institutional award. A non-citizen national is a person who, although not a citizen of the United States, owes permanent allegiance to the U.S. They are generally persons born in lands, which are not States, but are under U.S sovereignty, jurisdiction, or administration, for example, American Samoa. An individual lawfully admitted for permanent residence must submit a notarized statement, upon activation of the award, indicating possession of the alien registration receipt card (I-151 or I-551). Individuals on temporary or student visas are not eligible for support from the NRSA.

## **HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS**

U-RISE is a year-round program. Participants are **required** to attend an "Introduction to Biomedical Research" workshop for four weeks at the beginning of their training. This workshop usually begins on June 1 of each year. Following a series of mini-rotations students select a research preceptor for completing a long-term research project. During the academic year U-RISE students are required to work 10-15 hours per week in the lab (40 hours per week during summer and winter breaks) and attend a weekly Biology 490 seminar series. Students are required to participate in an extramural research experience in the summer before their final year at CSUN. Advanced requirements include presenting research at local and national meetings, and submitting a thesis at the end of their senior year.