**Microbiology and Immunology Diversity Scholars Program Application**

The Microbiology and Immunology Diversity Scholars (MIDS) Program is an undergraduate research initiative established by the Graduate Program of Microbiology and Immunology (PMI) at the University of Pittsburgh. The aim of the MIDS Program is to promote diversity in STEM by engaging students from historically underrepresented or disadvantaged backgrounds in the biomedical sciences in long-term biomedical research, career development, and mentorship in preparation for graduate-level education and careers in the biomedical sciences (MD, PhD, MD/PhD).

Eligible students must have a strong interest in microbiology or immunology. In addition, students must:

* Commit a minimum of 10-15 hrs/week (**3-4hr blocks at a time**) to research for 10 weeks per semester.
* Identify as a member of a historically underrepresented group in the biomedical sciences or be from a disadvantaged background that limits opportunities for a career in biomedical sciences.
* Be ≥ 18 years of age and currently enrolled as an undergraduate at the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, or Chatham University.
* Have completed at least 2 semesters of undergraduate coursework.
* Have excellent communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills.

The program lasts 2 school years (4 semesters) and to be eligible candidates must have 2+ years remaining of undergraduate coursework.

Applications accepted for Fall and Spring semesters. Please compile the following application materials and **email the completed application to** **cak94@pitt.edu** **with the title “MIDS Program Application”.**

1. Personal Information

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: |  |
| Student ID#: |  |
| Major: |  |
| Anticipated Graduation Date: |  |
| How did you hear about us? |   |
| Research Interests:***Select up to 3*** |  Molecular Virology Immunology of Barrier Surfaces  Microbial Pathogenesis Tumor Immunology Bioengineering Antibiotic Resistance Systems Immunology Genetics Microbial Evolution Transplantation Immunology  Cancer Virology Immunology of Infectious Disease Autoimmunity Basic Immunologic Mechanisms |
|  |  |

In addition, please provide the following documents:

1. Unofficial transcript
2. Class schedule for the semester you are applying
3. 1 letter of reference (Referee should email letter directly to cak94@pitt.edu)
4. Curriculum vitae/resume that includes all extracurricular activities, employment positions, and additional commitments.
5. In addition, please provide the following short personal statements for each of the prompts below:
	1. 500-words or less on your interest in biomedical research and your career goals
	2. 300-words on why participation in this program will help your career goals.
	3. 300-words on how being from a disadvantaged or underrepresented background figured into your decision to apply to this program.
6. Once you submit your application, our Program Coordinator will reach out to you to schedule a 30-minute interview. Interviews will take place at The Assembly Building, 5051 Centre Avenue on the following dates:
	1. Thursday, January 16, 2025 – 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
	2. Friday, January 17, 2025 – 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM
	3. Monday, January 20, 2025 – 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM
	4. Tuesday, January 21, 2025 – 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

For more information on the MIDS Program visit: <http://www.pmi.pitt.edu/research/mid-scholars-program>or Contact our Director, Dr. Amanda Poholek (poholeka@pitt.edu)

 Contact our Program Coordinator, Candice Kuo (cak94@pitt.edu)

**Follow us on social media!**

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**X:** **@MIDSProgramPitt**

**Instagram: midsprogrampitt**