APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
Promoting Underrepresented Minorities Advancing in the Sciences (PUMAS)
Internship Program

Before applying for the PUMAS internship, read the following instructions carefully.

New this year, the online application can be worked on and saved over multiple sessions. Just click the 'Save Draft' button at the bottom of the form and you will be emailed a special link that will return you to your application in progress. Click the 'Submit' button when you application is complete.

To apply for the 2020 PUMAS internship program, go to the online application form.

Submission deadline: Friday, February 28, 2020

Eligibility Requirements
To apply for the PUMAS internship, you must:

- Be a United States citizen or permanent resident (international students are NOT eligible for this program).
- Be currently enrolled as a community college student who is planning to transfer to a 4-year institution to pursue a bachelor's degree in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM).
- Have successfully completed at least two semesters of college-level science courses with a lab component (chemistry and molecular biology preferred, but not required), before the start of the PUMAS internship.
- Have a minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.50.

Emphasis is placed on identifying applicants who are historically underrepresented in biomedical research, including students of certain ethnic backgrounds (African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Alaskan Natives, Hawaiian Natives, and natives of the U.S. Pacific Islands), students who are socioeconomically disadvantaged, first-generation college students, or students with disabilities.

No prior research experience is required to apply.
Application Process

The PUMAS online application form includes questions about:

- Personal contact information
- Educational history (high school, college(s) attended and cumulative GPA, start and end dates of upcoming semester, etc.)
- Career objectives (anticipated transfer school, major, etc.)
- Prior commitments that overlap with the 9-week PUMAS internship program dates (Monday, June 8 to Friday, August 7, 2020) or limit your participation in a 30-hour work week over the summer

You will also need to upload:

- An official or unofficial copy of your college transcript(s). If you have attended more than one college, be sure to include a transcript from each college. You must also upload an unofficial record of the courses you are currently enrolled in this semester.
- Your resume (no longer than two pages). It should focus on your college activities (rather than high school), and include: name and contact information; college and anticipated year of graduation; any awards and honors received; any volunteer or work experience (e.g. church activities, community service, clubs, etc.); any leadership roles; relevant skills and strengths.

Letter of Recommendation

You will need to provide the name(s) and email address(es) for one or two references who can submit a letter of recommendation for you. Your references must be a scientific mentor and/or educator, such as a college science professor from whom you’ve taken a science course. When you submit your application, the reference you list will receive an email with a link and instructions to submit a letter of recommendation online.

We recommend that you contact you reference(s) in advance to get their approval and inform them that they will receive an email request. Please note the deadline for your references to submit the letter of recommendation is Tuesday, March 6, 2020.

Essay Questions

As part of your application, you will need to provide your answers to essay questions in a separate document. Each question should be answered in full sentences, not bulleted lists.

Essay Questions: New or Returning Applicants

Please answer all four questions below. Maximum: two (2) pages.

1. Why are you interested in studying biological/biomedical science?
2. What are your career goals at present? And how do you think this program will help you reach your career goals?
3. The success of the PUMAS program depends on the active cooperation of all participants. What strengths and skills do you bring to the program that you can share with other students?
4. How would your participation in the PUMAS program contribute to the program’s goals of increasing the number of underrepresented minorities in the sciences?
Special Essay Questions: Returning PUMAS Interns
If you have previously participated in the PUMAS internship program and wish to return, please answer the two following questions, instead of the four questions listed above. Maximum: one (1) page.

1. Why do you want to continue working at Gladstone?
2. What can you get out of this summer experience that you didn’t get out of your first PUMAS internship experience?

Ready to Submit? Here’s a final checklist.

Please ensure the following documents are ready before you start:
- Digital copy of your college transcript(s)
- Your resume
- Separate document with your answers to the essay questions
- Name and email address(es) for one or two references

When you’re ready, submit your PUMAS application online.