



# Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE)

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Program Director*

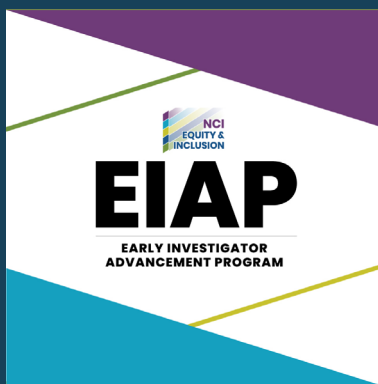
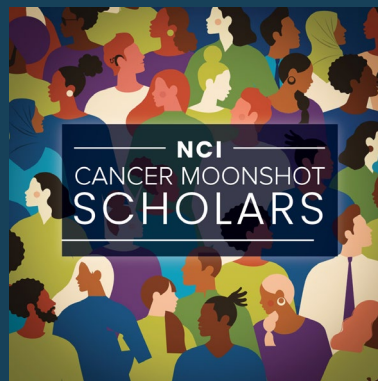
*NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities*

# NCI Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD)

## Diversity Training



## Workforce Diversity



## Partnerships

- Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity (PACHE)

## Networks

- Connecting Underrepresented Populations to Clinical Trials (CUSP2CT)
- Transformative Educational Advancement and Mentoring Network (TEAM)

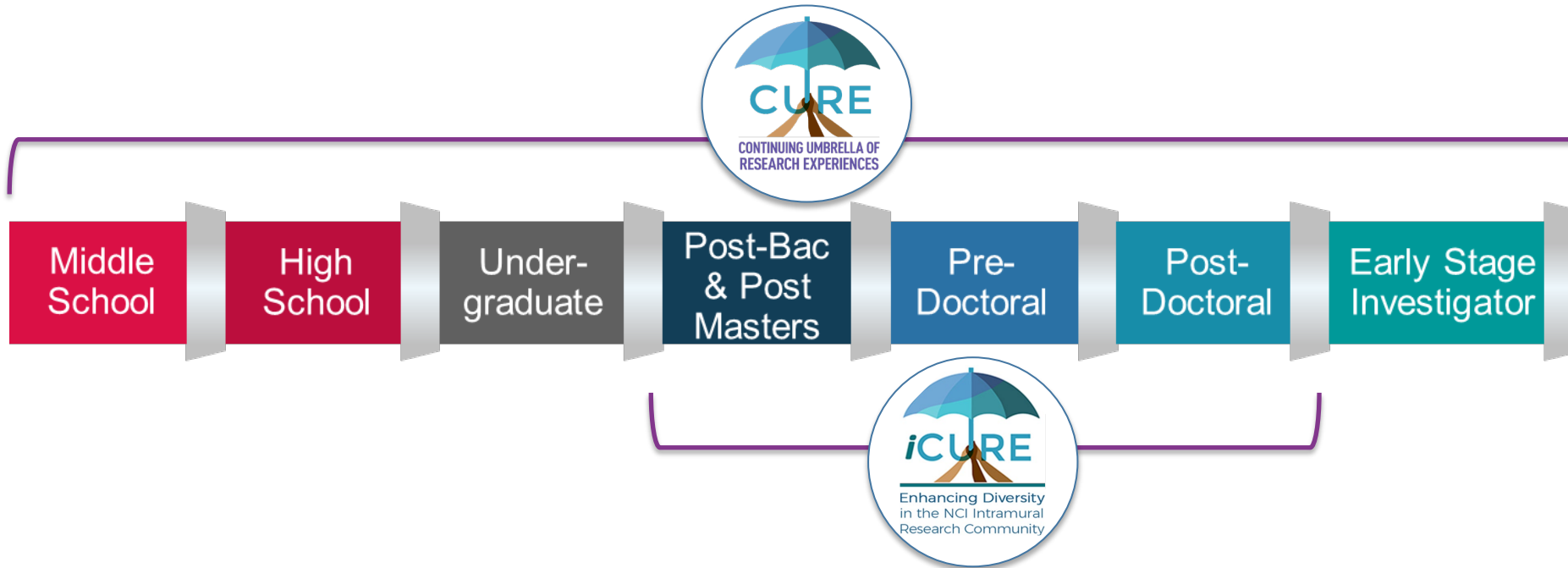
## Disparities and Equity Program

- Basic research
- Translational research
- Behavioral research
- DEIA



# NCI CRCHD *Diversity-Focused Training Programs*

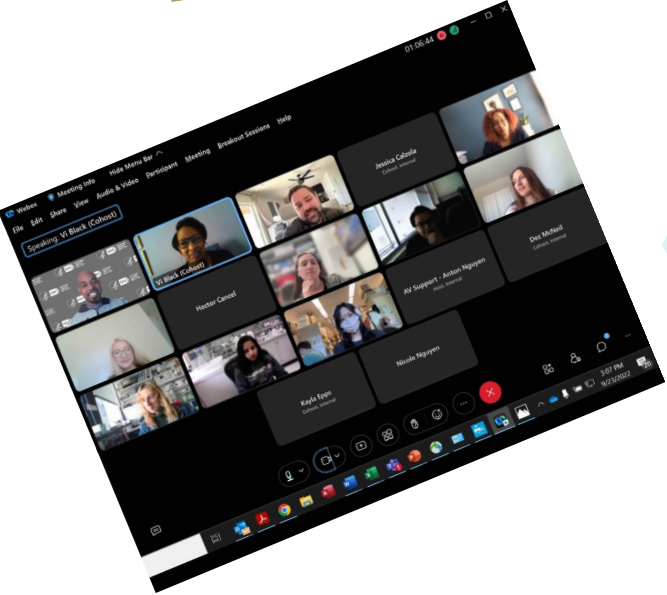
## Extramural: Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (CURE)



- Support research experiences of **underrepresented** students and scientists
- Promote professional and career development
- Help the trainees achieve research independence

## Intramural: Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE)

# More Than a Pipeline: CURE and iCURE Provide an Ecosystem of Support



# Intramural Continuing Umbrella of Research Experiences (iCURE)



## iCURE Goals:

- Enhance research workforce diversity at NCI
- Promote career advancement of scholars
- Foster an inclusive environment in the NCI intramural community



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Enhancing Diversity  
in the NCI Intramural  
Research Community



# iCURE Supports Research Experiences at All Three Campuses of NCI in Maryland

- Mentored research experiences on **NCI campuses** in Bethesda, Shady Grove (Rockville) and Frederick, Maryland
- Supports **postbacs** (up to 2 years), **graduate students** (2 years) and **postdocs** (3 years)
- Centralized review and program-facilitated matches for scholars to NCI PIs; **applicants do not need to pre-identify a PI to apply; selected candidates mutually match with iCURE investigators before onboarding as iCURE scholars**
- iCURE matches scholars to PIs in the Center for Cancer Research ([CCR](#)), Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics ([DCEG](#)), the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences ([DCCPS](#)), and Center for Global Health ([CGH](#))



# iCURE Eligibility



**iCURE scholars must be U.S. citizens, legal permanent residents, or non citizen nationals**

## Post-baccalaureate (Incl. Post Master's)

- Must meet both [Postbac IRTA](#) and iCURE eligibility criteria

## Graduate Students

- Must currently be enrolled in a PhD or equivalent graduate program

## Postdoctoral Fellows

- Must have a PhD, MD, or equivalent by proposed iCURE start time
- No more than 5 yrs of relevant research experience

# iCURE Promotes Diversity in the Cancer Research Workforce

NCI particularly encourages applications from individuals from groups identified in NIH's Notice of Interest in Diversity ([NOT-OD-20-031](#)) as underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral, and social sciences.

## Race/Ethnicity

- Blacks or African Americans
- Hispanics or Latinos
- American Indians or Alaskan Natives
- Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders

## Disability

- Physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities

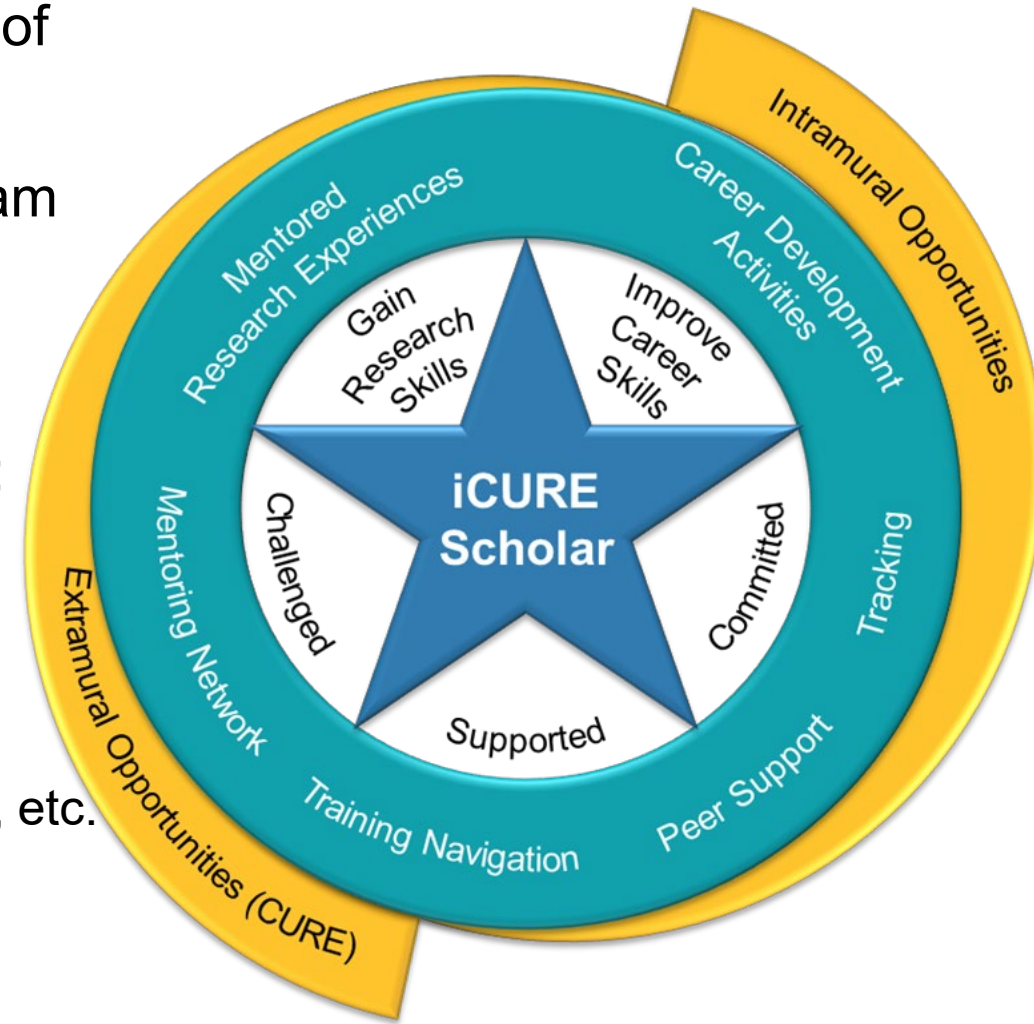
## Disadvantaged Background

- Homeless
- Foster care system
- First generation w/ Bachelor's degree
- Federal Pell Grants
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program
- Rural or low income/access areas



# iCURE Builds a Supportive Environment

- Matched with one or more additional mentors outside of their research groups
- Bi-Monthly 1-1 “check in” meetings with iCURE program staff
- Individual career navigation
- Professional development and other cohort activities\*:
  - CRCHD Professional Development and Mock Review Workshop
  - Mentor luncheons
  - iCURE scholar-run journal club
  - Focus Area Units – data science, cancer health disparities, etc.
- And many more





Thank You.

QUESTIONS?

Contact: [iCURE@nih.gov](mailto:iCURE@nih.gov)  
[www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/icure](http://www.cancer.gov/about-nci/organization/crchd/diversity-training/icure)



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