

**Canary CREST Program
Frequently Asked Questions and Answers (FAQ)**

1. How do I find out if I am eligible for the Canary CREST program?

- Students must be undergraduate students enrolled in two- or four-year colleges or universities.
- Students are expected to work at least 8 hours per day, 5 days per week in the lab for the duration of the 10-week period.
- Students are expected to commit to and attend all program activities, including orientation, seminars, and the poster symposium.
- Students must be U.S. citizens/permanent residents or currently enrolled Stanford University Undergraduates.

2. I am an international student, can I apply for this program?

Yes, international students may apply for a limited number of openings. Based on NIH guidelines: Unless strongly justified on the basis of exceptional relevance to NIH, research education programs, such as the Canary CREST Program, should be used primarily for the education of U.S. citizens and U.S. permanent residents.

3. Does the Canary Center assist students in obtaining US visas?

No, The Canary Center will not assist with obtaining visas.

4. The website states that the Canary CREST program lasts 10 weeks. During this time, are students allowed to take vacation and make up that time by extending the end date of the program?

Students are expected to work in the lab at least 8 hours per day, 5 days per week during the 10-week research program period. Students are required to attend first day orientation, scheduled seminars and the Poster Symposium. Program participants are not granted vacation time. The end date of the CREST Program cannot be formally extended beyond the 10-week duration.

5. Is this Canary CREST program only suitable for students with AP biology or AP Chemistry?

There are no prerequisites or course study requirements pertaining to this program. Students who are interested in this field are welcome and encouraged to apply.

6. Will the Canary Center provide housing for students who do not live locally?

We do not provide housing. All Students are responsible for having a living arrangement and commuting to campus for the entire 10-week program.

The Canary Center will provide some financial support (minimum of \$1,000) for housing. This amount is tentative and based on the need of all the students accepted into the program.

*Enrolled Stanford students are also responsible to find their own housing or sign up for Stanford summer housing themselves. The Canary Center will not provide assistance with housing enrollment.

- 7. Will the Canary Center provide travel assistance for students who do not live locally?**
Round trip travel will be reimbursed for non-local participants (over 50 miles one way); however, the amount of support is tentative and based on the need of all the students accepted in the program.

*The CREST Program does not reimburse for daily local transportation throughout the 10-week program (i.e., bus, Uber, taxi, train, etc.)

- 8. Will I get paid for participating in the Canary CREST program?**
Yes, this program is funded by the NCI. All participants receive \$4,000 for completion of the 10-week program. For Stanford undergraduate students, additional internal funding may be available.

- 9. How many students usually apply for this program?**
In the previous year (2018), between 300 and 350 students applied for 25 positions in this summer research program.

- 10. During the selection process, will potential candidates be interviewed in person?**
Mentors will decide to conduct interviews either in person, via telephone, or videoconference (e.g., Skype).

- 11. Should transcripts be officially released, or are unofficial copies acceptable?**
Both official and unofficial transcripts are accepted.

- 12. I have to provide a reference. What does this mean?**
Applicants must ask a teacher or professor to be their reference. This person should be able to comment on the applicant's interest and aptitude for science and their potential as a summer researcher. During the application review process, potential mentors may ask the reference for a letter of recommendation, or to speak with them via telephone.

Note: Letters of recommendation should not be submitted at the time of application.

- 13. What happens after I submit my application?**
Immediately after submitting an application, a confirmation message will be sent to the email provided during registration. If you do not receive a confirmation email, contact canarycrest@stanford.edu immediately.

- 14. If my application shows "Saved", has it been submitted?**
No. If the application portal shows "Saved", your application has not been submitted. Contact canarycrest@stanford.edu for assistance.

- 15. Is it okay for me to mail or email all my application materials in one packet instead of submitting them online?**

No. All Applications must be completed and submitted online. Hard copies or emailed copies of applications will not be accepted.

16. This is my senior year in high school, am I eligible to apply for this summer research opportunity?

Yes, if are enrolled as an undergraduate student in fall 2020, you are eligible to apply.

17. I am senior at an accredited institution, am I still eligible to apply for this summer research opportunity?

Yes, if you are a senior at an accredited institution you may submit an application.