



## Diversity, Respect, and Inclusion are Vital for Excellence (DRIVE) in Research Pathway Award Program Policy Undergraduate Research Experience – Summer 2025

### GENERAL

The Stanford Maternal and Child Health Research Institute is pleased to announce the DRIVE (Diversity, Respect, and Inclusion are Vital for Excellence) in Research Pathway Award. This program is intended to improve the diversity of the research workforce underrepresented in maternal and child health-related research while supporting mentorship and training.

MCHRI is committed to advancing diversity, equity, inclusion and justice (DEIJ) in all aspects of our work supporting research, education and resources in maternal and child health. Diversity in research is a key component of innovation. It enhances the creative process by bringing to the table new concepts and points of view and contributes to a culture of transformative scholarship.

The DRIVE in Research Pathway Award is aimed at maintaining the pipeline of diverse students interested in biomedical research careers. This award provides a stipend to underrepresented minorities (URM) and first-generation and/or low income (FLI) Stanford undergraduate students in their sophomore year to work over the coming summer with established investigators with either extramural funding or *substantial* MCHRI funding on maternal and child health related research projects.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Applicants are Stanford URM and/or FLI undergraduate students who are currently enrolled in their sophomore year and interested in biomedical research.
- Stanford URM and/or FLI freshmen or juniors may also apply if they have had no prior research experience but have an

interest in biomedical research opportunities.

- We follow the University's definition of the URM category. The URM category includes all individuals who have self-identified as American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.
- The FLI category includes students who grew up in working-class or low-income communities, and students who are first in their family to attend college.
- Students must have been enrolled full-time for at least two quarters during AY 2024-25.

The following are *not* eligible:

- Stanford seniors
- Undergraduate students on leave of absence

This award provides a *stipend* to Stanford URM/FLI undergraduate students interested in biomedical research and working with Stanford faculty on a research project related to maternal and child health.

### STUDENT APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

- Student applicants will choose up to 3 projects from the project database that fit with their scholarly interest or future goals.
- Student applicants should submit online application through the link on the program page.
- Student applications are reviewed by faculty mentors.
- Faculty mentors will shortlist students to interview as part of the selection process.
- Selected students will be matched with one faculty mentor and offered a DRIVE Award.

# Diversity, Respect, and Inclusion are Vital for Excellence (DRIVE) in Research Pathway Award Program Policy – Summer 2025

## AWARD AMOUNT

Awarded students will receive a stipend up to \$8,000, *including* a \$2,500 student housing supplement, for 10 weeks over the summer, for a minimum of 350 hours and maximum of 400 hours. Students may be eligible for an *additional* needs-based supplement of up to \$1,500.

The stipend will be paid in advance on a good-faith estimate of total hours worked as agreed upon between the student and the faculty mentor.

## AWARDEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The student may only participate in ONE full-time summer undergraduate research experience in summer 2025. On accepting a place on the DRIVE program, the student must sign the student contract and student waiver.

During summer 2025, the student must meet with their mentor weekly in addition to the following:

- Work a minimum of 350 hours between June 23, 2025 – August 29, 2025.
- If a student has other commitments during the 10-week period, they must discuss this with their faculty mentor during the interview process and notify the DRIVE program administration.
- Adhere to university guidelines regarding the number of hours that paid interns can spend in class (up to 5 units of coursework).
- Attend weekly faculty seminars and participate in student training workshops and events.
- Students are required to present their project in a poster symposium at the end of the internship.

## CONTACT

MCHRI Administration:  
[drive-team@stanford.edu](mailto:drive-team@stanford.edu)