REACH SUMMER PROGRAM

Research Experience in Autism for College and High School students

The REACH program seeks underrepresented minority high school and college students interested in becoming the next generation of neuroscientists.

H REACH is an 8-week immersive summer course for minority and underrepresented high school and undergraduate college students which uses team-based and peer-mentoring training strategies to hone their analytical skills and understanding of neuroscience and autism spectrum disorders (ASD). REACH is a pipeline program to graduate school and careers in neuroscience.

The course comprises lectures, neuroanatomy lab sessions and clinical demonstrations for interns to gain insight into ASD and neurodevelopmental disorders. Interns form research teams, each team supervised by a PhD student, a medical student and a faculty. The teams develop their own research hypothesis, design experiments and use various methodologies such as genomics, immunolabeling, electrophysiology and behavior to carry out their projects. Interns acquire and develop skills in creative thinking, problem-solving, peer-mentoring, and team dynamics. Parallel and synergizing the research experience, interns receive instruction in career development, responsible conduct in research, bioethics, cultural competence, addressing racial disparities in mental health care and community outreach.

The course ends with a graduation ceremony with teams presenting their projects as formal scientific talks.

Requirements: No prior research experience required.

Stipend: All REACH interns receive a stipend (\$2000)

When: Mid-June to mid-August (Dates TBD). Monday-Friday, 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

Where: Downstate Health Sciences University.

Contact: REACH@downstate.edu









