



APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN!

OBJECTIVE:

The primary objective of the Undergraduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (U-RISE) program is to promote broad participation in the biomedical research workforce by strengthening research training environments and expanding the pool of well-trained students who complete their baccalaureate degree, and transition into and complete biomedical, research-focused higher degree programs (such as Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D.).

WHAT U-RISE SCHOLARS DO AND RECEIVE:

- Partner with a faculty
- Attend workshops and scientific meetings to prepare you for competitive graduate and/or MD-PhD programs.
- Obtain Honors credits by enrolling in an Honors U-RISE course each semester.
- Meet outstanding researchers from leading institutions across the country.
- Participate in Summer Research at leading research-intensive institutions.
- Receive academic and financial support.
- Earn an honors' certificate and mentorship towards an honor's thesis



WHO CAN APPLY:

- Juniors and Senior undergraduate students with two years prior to graduation.
- Must be currently enrolled in at least 15 credits and must have completed 60 credit hours.
- Minimum overall GPA of 3.2.
- Students interested in enhancing their research training in biomedical, behavioral, clinical, and social sciences in preparation to enter doctorate research programs.



For more information and an application:

CALL: the U-RISE Program @ (575) 646-3091

STOP by the office in Foster Hall Room 365

EMAIL Graciela A. Unguez: gunguez@nmsu.edu

Merranda Marin: mmarin@nmsu.edu Laura

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Program Website: <https://u-rise.nmsu.edu>



3. Are you currently a student in one of these research training programs at NMSU?

- McNair Scholars Program New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation (AMP)
 Discovery Scholars Capstone Project: Honors Program
 Enhancing Hispanic Access to Natural Resource and Agricultural Careers through Education, Mentorship, and Training (ENHANCEMENT) Project
 ACES Undergraduate Research Program Other; Please list:

4. What is your desired advanced degree? (Preference will be given to students planning on a research career) M.S. PhD MD/PhD

5. In your opinion, what makes you a good candidate for the U-RISE Program at NMSU?

6. Do you have any previous research experience? Yes No

If “yes” to the above question, describe your research project and what you learned. Please also describe what you liked and disliked about your experiences.

7. Indicate your research interests and how they meet the U-RISE program goals

8. Describe your interests outside of academics.

Your Future Plans and Goals

9. What do you see yourself doing five years from now?

10. What else would you like us to know about you that was not asked?

Faculty Research Mentor Interviews

Following the initial interview, you must talk to a minimum of three (3) Faculty Research Mentors on the list provided about their laboratory research activities and how these may best match your research interests.

11. List the 3 NMSU faculty you met with and interviewed about your research interests and their lab/group. You must obtain their signature after your interview. You may add more than 5 if you prefer.

Faculty name: _____ Signature and date: _____

Faculty name _____ Signature and date: _____

Faculty name: _____ Signature and date: _____

AFTER your interviews are completed, please rank the faculty order of preference to join their research group.

Choice #1. Faculty name: _____

Choice #2. Faculty name: _____

Choice #3. Faculty name: _____

Additional Required Information

Include a copy of your current unofficial transcripts with your completed application.

Submission Deadline

Deadline for submission of your COMPLETED application is April 17th 2026 by 11:59 PM

Send all required forms (this form with answers to all questions; signatures and dates from the 3 faculty you interviewed; and unofficial copy of your transcripts) via email to Dr. Laura Rodriguez-Urbe at laurodri@nmsu.edu



Graciela A. Unguez
Co-director



Merranda Romero Marin
Co-director



Laura Rodriguez-Urbe
Program Manager