



# Undergraduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (U-RISE)

## 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 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.

### 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 entering Biomedical or Bio-Behavioral Research Disciplines
  - Majors in Biology, Chemistry/Biochemistry, Engineering, Plant/Environmental Sciences, Kinesiology, Anthropology, Public Health, Biostatistics, Computer Sciences, Psychology, Animal Sciences, and any major that can contribute to biomedical sciences!! **Call us and ask!**



### For more information and an application:

**CALL:** the U-RISE Program @ (575) 646-7963.

**STOP** by the office in Foster Hall Room 465

**EMAIL** Graciela A. Unguez: [gunguez@nmsu.edu](mailto:gunguez@nmsu.edu)

Merranda Marin: [mmarin@nmsu.edu](mailto:mmarin@nmsu.edu)

Laura Rodriguez: [laurodri@nmsu.edu](mailto:laurodri@nmsu.edu)



## Applicant Information

Full Name (Last, First):

Mailing Address:

NMSU Email:

Cell Phone Number:

Current Major:

Year in School:

Anticipated Graduation Date:

## Demographics

The information you provide about yourself on this page is confidential and used to help us follow federal granting agency requirements for this training program.

Are you a U.S. Citizen?  Yes  No

Are you a Permanent Resident of the U.S.?  Yes  No

Are you a First-Generation College Student?  Yes  No

Sex:  Female  Male

Gender:  Woman  Man  Transgender  Non-binary  Other

Ethnicity:  Hispanic/Latino  Non-Hispanic  Do not wish to provide

Race (Check all that apply):

American Indian/Alaska Native  Asian  Black/African American

Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander  White  Other (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

Do not wish to provide

Disability (Do you have a disability?):  No  Yes (Check all that apply)

Mobility/Orthopedic Impairment  Visual  Hearing

Other  Do not wish to provide

## Tell Us About Yourself

1. How did you hear about the Undergraduate Research Training Initiative for Student Enhancement (U-RISE) Program?
2. What do you hope to gain by becoming a U-RISE Scholar and doing research in the lab of an NMSU faculty member?

**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       Other (Please list):

**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 general biomedical or biobehavioral research interests.**

**8. Describe your interests and hobbies outside of research.**

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

**11. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**12. For your application to be complete, you must ALSO interview with both Program Directors, Drs. Merranda Marin ([mmarin@nmsu.edu](mailto:mmarin@nmsu.edu)) and Graciela A. Unguez ([gunguez@nmsu.edu](mailto:gunguez@nmsu.edu)). Please set up an appointment with them by sending a joint email to both of with dates/times that you are available to meet in person or via zoom.**

Merranda Marin: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature and date: \_\_\_\_\_

Graciela A. Unguez: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature and date: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 February 3, 2025 by 11:59pm.**

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



Graciela A. Unguez  
Co-Director



Merranda Marin  
Co-Director



Laura Rodriguez-Urbe  
Program Assistant