

# Summer Training as Research Scholars Program (STaRS)



## Overview

STaRS is a 10-week summer research program that runs from June through mid-August. The program is designed for undergraduate students interested in a career in biomedical sciences and promotes more equitable access to graduate education for students historically underrepresented in science and medicine. Throughout the program, STaRS scholars develop research competencies by performing faculty-mentored research and in research skills seminars. They also attend events that enhance the skills required for successful entrance and completion of a graduate program or an MD/PhD program in the biomedical sciences. Our small cohort allows for personalized mentoring and advising. The program is grant funded through the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the NIH and is run by Boston University Graduate Medical Sciences, a recognized leader in graduate education and biomedical research.

## Program Details

Each STaRS scholar is assigned a faculty mentor based on mutual research interests, and participates in a **biomedical research project** from a broad range of topics - including heart, lung and blood research. STaRS scholars will present their research in oral and poster presentation in the research symposium. STaRS includes **academic enhancement sessions** such as preparation for application to graduate school, article presentations, research skills seminars, career path workshops, resume and abstract writing, in a supportive learning community. Scholars also participate in social activities.

**As part of the STaRS program, research scholars will receive:**

- Stipend for program participation and university housing (apartment style dorms)
- Round trip travel for out-of-state students
- Two summer course credits

## Eligibility & Admissions Criteria

**Qualified STaRS applicants must:**

- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Be a rising junior or rising senior at the start of Summer 2024.
- Be currently enrolled in a degree granting, part-time or full-time program leading to a Bachelor's degree.
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Have an interest in biological research.
- Provide two letters of recommendation
- Prior research experience is desirable.

## Program Contact

**Director:** Isabel Dominguez, PhD  
Any questions may be directed to [starsgms@bu.edu](mailto:starsgms@bu.edu).

