



The Center for Diversity in Public Health Leadership Training

Excellence in Mentorship of Under-Represented Groups (EMURG) for Health Equity Leaders Fellowship

Frequently Asked Questions

Fellowship Description and Activities

1. What is EMURG Fellowship?

The **Excellence in Mentorship of Under-Represented Groups (EMURG) for Health Equity Leaders Fellowship (EMURG Fellowship)** is a new Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Minority Health 12-month fellowship. The goal of the fellowship is to provide educational and professional development opportunities for under-resourced and under-represented graduate-level scholars interested in addressing public health, mental health, maternal and child health, and health disparities within the federal government. The overarching goal of the EMURG Fellowship is to promote diversity among future federal public health leaders. Fellows may also gain clinical experience and develop leadership skills.

2. What are the site locations for the EMURG Fellowship?

The EMURG Fellowship is located multiple DHHS sites. In your application, we request that you specify what areas of public health you are interested in pursuing. Based on the information you provide on your application you will be matched with a mentor in one of the DHHS agencies. The EMURG Fellowship is hybrid, some activities are in-person, e.g., Orientation and other program activities (seminars and mentoring) will be virtual. We use rich, interactive learning design to integrate the in-person and virtual learning context to create interpersonal and collaborative connections among fellows across sites.

Eligibility

3. Who is eligible for the EMURG Fellowship?

Student eligible to apply are:

- Enrolled as a graduate student in a public health, allied health, or social sciences degree **OR** received their master's degree or doctoral degree within 12 calendar months of the EMURG orientation.
- GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 (or equivalent grading on a Pass/Fail scale)

- Willing to commit to the length of the EMURG Fellowship (Full-time/ 40 hours per week)
 - Designated as a U.S. Citizen, U.S. Nationals, or Permanent Resident
- 4. I am not an underrepresented student. Can I apply to the EMURG Fellowship?**
Yes, you can. All graduate students and recently graduated graduate students, as described in question #3, are eligible for the EMURG Fellowship.
- 5. Can international students participate in the EMURG Fellowship?**
No, international students (i.e., students with F1 or K1 visa) are not eligible to participate in the EMURG Fellowship.
- 6. I graduate before the EMURG Fellowship starts, can I apply?**
If you are within 12 months of your graduate degree graduation you are eligible to apply to the EMURG Fellowship.
- 7. Can undergraduate students participate in the EMURG Fellowship?**
No, the EMURG Fellowship is only for enrolled, degree-seeking graduate students. If you are an undergraduate student or a recent baccalaureate degree student (within 12 months of program orientation), please consider applying to our MCHC/RISE-UP or MCH-LEARN programs.
- 8. Can students without health insurance apply to the EMURG Fellowship?**
Students without health insurance can apply to the EMURG Fellowship but will need to obtain health insurance.

Program Accommodations and Expectations

- 9. Do students receive a stipend for participating in the EMURG Fellowship?**
Yes, graduate fellows receive a stipend during their participation in the summer program (visit KennedyKrieger.org/EMURG for details).
- 10. Are travel and housing costs taken out the stipend?**
Yes, travel costs related to the program are covered including one to two pieces of luggage. Housing costs are covered throughout the summer program.
- 11. Are meals program sponsored?**
Meals (breakfast and lunch) are covered during Orientation Weeks.
- 12. Can the EMURG Fellowship provide necessary accommodations for varying ability levels?**
We are committed to providing ADA compliant learning environments across program activities. There is space in the application to note accommodations applicants may need to fully participate in the EMURG-UP Fellowship. Requesting accommodations will not influence review of applications or decision-making about program acceptance.
- 13. Does the EMURG Fellowship count towards academic credit?**
Maybe; the student's degree granting institution determines if academic credit can be given for participating in the EMURG Fellowship.

14. How many hours per week should students dedicate to the program?

Students should expect to devote 40 hours per week to their public health or research projects and program activities.

15. Are the program dates flexible (i.e., start at a later date; take time off to work)?

No, all students must commit to participation for the whole length of the program.

Application Details

16. Where can I apply to the EMURG Fellowship program?

The online application is available at KennedyKrieger.org/EMURG.

17. What is the best way to answer the essay questions?

Applicants should strive to write well-organized essays that reflect on social determinants and research perspectives related to health disparities, developmental disabilities, mental health, maternal and child health, or infectious diseases. You are welcome and encouraged to use references/citations as necessary in your essays.

18. What if my graduate program is only graded on a Pass or Fail scale?

Students who have successfully passed all courses may substitute their final transcript showing these results to meet our program criteria of a 3.0 or better GPA.

19. What if my university does not provide unofficial transcripts?

Students may request an official transcript for themselves and then upload it with their application materials.

20. Who can write my recommendation letters?

Two letters of reference from professors, clinical advisors, research advisors, teacher assistants, or academic advisors at your current or former university are **REQUIRED**. The referee should use their professional or university email address. A third referee is recommended (optional). Reference format includes a brief questionnaire and a letter of recommendation with up to 850 words. **The deadline for letters of recommendation is January 31st (11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time).**

21. To whom should recommendation letters be addressed?

Please address recommendation letters to the "EMURG Fellowship Selection Committee."

22. Is there a standard recommendation form to complete?

Recommendations include a brief questionnaire and recommended questions referees are asked to address within the letter of recommendation.

23. How many applicants are selected to participate in the EMURG Fellowship?

The number of applicants varies from year to year. Slots are competitive.

24. When should I expect a decision letter?

Decision letters are emailed by the end of March.

25. Where can I find more information on the EMURG Fellowship?

Please visit our website, KennedyKrieger.org/EMURG for more information on the

EMURG Fellowship.

**All program activities are contingent on Department of Health and
Human Services (DHHS), Office of Minority Health funding.**

Address additional questions to: EMURG_Fellowship@kennedykrieger.org