An Overview

The Center for Diversity in Public Health Leadership Training at Kennedy Krieger Institute has programs designed to provide educational opportunities for undergraduate and graduate-level students in the fields of public health, maternal and child health, and developmental disabilities. The center’s mission is to reduce socially-determined childhood brain disorders through leadership development of diverse scholars who use culturally relevant and evidence-based approaches to inform research, practice, advocacy and policy. Our programs are funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Our innovative and real-world experiential training programs include:

Maternal Child Health Careers/Research Initiatives for Student Enhancement-Undergraduate Program (MCHC/RISE-UP)

The Maternal Child Health Careers/Research Initiatives for Student Enhancement-Undergraduate Program (MCHC/RISE-UP) is a nine-week summer program designed for undergraduate juniors and seniors, and recent baccalaureate degree students with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.7 on a 4-point scale and an interest in learning more about public health and preventing health disparities. MCHC/RISE-UP collaborates with university partners from across the nation to offer public health leadership and learning experiences in clinical, research, and community engagement and advocacy areas.

KennedyKrieger.org/RISE-UP

Dr. James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Diseases RISE Fellowship

The Dr. James A. Ferguson Emerging Infectious Disease RISE Fellowship is a nine-week summer program for students currently enrolled, full-time, in a medical, dental, or pharmacy graduate program; a veterinary medicine program; or in a graduate program in public health, allied health, nursing or the social sciences, and who are interested in conducting research in the areas of infectious diseases and/or health disparities. Fellows, who are expected to present their research at national meetings, increase and improve their professional development skills and receive guidance in submitting manuscripts to peer-reviewed publications.

KennedyKrieger.org/Ferguson

Maternal and Child Health-Leadership Education, Advocacy, and Research Network (MCH-LEARN)

MCH-LEARN is a nine-week maternal and child health-focused health equity leadership summer program that continues through the academic year to provide a comprehensive integrated learning experience. Monthly meetings during the academic year provide undergraduate freshman and sophomore students with
information about the maternal and child health field, leadership, and policy. Undergraduate students with a GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4-point scale and who are from disadvantaged backgrounds and/or underrepresented populations in the maternal and child healthcare (MCH) field are encouraged to apply. The overarching goal of MCH-LEARN is to increase the number of students from historically disadvantaged and/or underrepresented populations who enter graduate school in MCH fields.

KennedyKrieger.org/MCH-LEARN

Conference
Each year, the Center for Diversity in Leadership Training organizes the Room to Grow: Journey to Cultural and Linguistic Competency Conference. The conference brings together national speakers to present on the latest research and practice related to addressing and reducing socially-determined health disparities. The Room to Grow conference provides continuing education credits, and features interactive seminars for faculty members, administrators, students, residents, trainees and the community.

What Former Students Say
“This summer, I have grown so much; made so many connections and...learned so many new things along the way. After having completed the program, I know now, more than ever, what my calling in life is, and I can’t wait to change the face of public health. This program has sparked a fire within me that will take me far.”

“I really hope that one day I will be able to pay forward all that the program has given us, and do my part to help others along their careers.”

Contact and Application Information
Visit KennedyKrieger.org/CenterforDiversity for application information for each of the Center for Diversity in Public Health Leadership Training programs.

Students who are members of underrepresented populations, as defined by the federal government, are strongly encouraged to apply!

For general Kennedy Krieger Institute information, visit KennedyKrieger.org or call 888-554-2080.