CMB-GAANN Diversity Questionnaire

The goal of the CMB-GAANN Program is to train the next generation of scientific leaders and educators to address the national need for doctoral-level training in cell and molecular biology research and teaching. The CMB-GAANN Program will expand and diversify the CMB Program’s highly meritorious research training program with a supervised, inclusive, and evaluated experience in teaching pedagogy for highly qualified individuals who are eligible to receive federal financial aid (FAASTA-eligible), and will strive to target students from underrepresented minority populations. Please include the information requested in the following questions when applying for the CMB-GAANN Fellowship.

Although funded by the United States Department of Education, the CMB-GAANN embraces the NIH’s statement on diversity and inclusiveness (NOT-OD-20-031: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-20-031.html):

Every facet of the United States scientific research enterprise—from basic laboratory research to clinical and translational research to policy formation—requires superior intellect, creativity and a wide range of skill sets and viewpoints. NIH’s ability to help ensure that the nation remains a global leader in scientific discovery and innovation is dependent upon a pool of highly talented scientists from diverse backgrounds who will help to further NIH’s mission. Diverse teams working together and capitalizing on innovative ideas and distinct perspectives outperform homogenous teams. Scientists and trainees from diverse backgrounds and life experiences bring different perspectives, creativity, and individual enterprise to address complex scientific problems. There are many benefits that flow from a diverse NIH-supported scientific workforce, including: fostering scientific innovation, enhancing global competitiveness, contributing to robust learning environments, improving the quality of the research, advancing the likelihood that underserved or health disparity populations participate in, and benefit from health research, and enhancing public trust. In spite of tremendous advancements in scientific research, information, educational and research opportunities are not equally available to all. NIH encourages institutions to diversify their student and faculty populations to enhance the participation of individuals from groups that are underrepresented in the biomedical, clinical, behavioral and social sciences.

To help meet the goals of the Department of Education and the NIH to increase diversity, the CMB-GAANN requests that fellowship applicants provide answers to the following 5 demographic questions. The CMB-GAANN recognizes that the allotted responses are not necessarily as diverse or inclusive as they could be.

1. **Sex/Gender Identity**
   - Female
   - Male
   - Non-binary or gender non-conforming
   - Unknown or do not wish to report

   - Hispanic or Latino
   - Not Hispanic or Latino
   - Unknown or do not wish to report

- American Indian / Alaska Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Black or African American
- White
- More Than One Race
- Unknown or do not wish to report

4. **Disability**: (visual, hearing, walking, lifting, or cognitive; as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Amended: [https://www.ada.gov/pubs/adastatute08.htm](https://www.ada.gov/pubs/adastatute08.htm))

- Yes
- No
- Unknown or do not wish to report

5. **Disadvantaged Background**: (Meets *two or more* of the following criteria):

   1. Were or currently are homeless, as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Definition: [https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento/](https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento/));
   2. Were or currently are in the foster care system, as defined by the Administration for Children and Families (Definition: [https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/focus-areas/foster-care](https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/focus-areas/foster-care));
   3. Were eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program for two or more years (Definition: [https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines](https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/income-eligibility-guidelines));
   4. Have/had no parents or legal guardians who completed a bachelor’s degree (see [https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018009.pdf](https://nces.ed.gov/pubs2018/2018009.pdf));
   5. Were or currently are eligible for Federal Pell grants (Definition: [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fpg/eligibility.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/fpg/eligibility.html));
   6. Received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) as a parent or child (Definition: [https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/wic-eligibility-requirements](https://www.fns.usda.gov/wic/wic-eligibility-requirements)).
   7. Grew up in one of the following areas: a) a U.S. rural area, as designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer (https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health), or b) a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services-designated Low-Income and Health Professional Shortage Areas (qualifying zipcodes are included in the file). Only one of the two possibilities in #7 can be used as a criterion for the disadvantaged background definition.)

- Yes
- No
- Unknown or do not wish to report

For questions about the GAANN Fellows and support with the application processes, please contact Matt Poynter, CMB-GAANN Director: [matthew.poynter@uvm.edu](mailto:matthew.poynter@uvm.edu)