



Student Information

Q1.

Dear student,

This application is for CSUF undergraduate students interested in the CIRM-funded BSCR, COMPASS or both programs.

The Bridges to Stem Cell Research (BSCR) is a 19-month program with 7-months of training at CSUF followed by a 12-month, full-time, paid internship. Requirements for this program are successful completion of at least one of the following courses by May 30, 2024: BIOL 302, BIOL 303, BIOL 309, or CHEM 421. The program is open to both biology and biochemistry students. Ideally, the selected undergraduate students would be close to graduating so that they can start working immediately at the end of their internship.

The COMPASS program is designed to get students from underrepresented backgrounds into the stem cell workforce. If you have received a Pell Grant or are First in Family to attend college, or consider yourself to be from a background that is underrepresented in STEM, then you qualify for this program. This is a two-year program (Fall 2024 - Summer 2026). Requirements for this program are completion of all biology lower division courses (exceptions may be made for one of the 200-level laboratories) and CHEM 120B. This program is open to only biology majors. Ideally, the selected students are rising juniors. It is expected that the

graduates from this program will work in a stem cell biology-related field for at least one year before pursuing other career goals.

Rising seniors from an underrepresented background should consider applying to both programs.

What program(s) would you like to apply for?

- BSCR
- COMPASS
- Both BSCR and COMPASS

Q2. Download and review the questions on the [application printout](#) (link) before starting the online application. Many of the response fields are required, and some of them are required in a specific format (e.g., dates). You will need your TDA for grades and semester details. You should thoughtfully prepare your responses to the three narrative/essay questions (four narratives if applying for both the programs) as we will discuss those responses during the interview. Please email the program directors if you have any questions: almiyamoto@fullerton.edu (COMPASS) or npatel@fullerton.edu (BSCR).

Your responses are kept strictly confidential. Most information shared with the funding agency or CSUF will be reported as aggregate (i.e., data cannot be used to identify the applicant by name).

Also, request your recommenders to complete the online recommendation prior to April 8th, 2024. Link to the form: https://fullerton.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bfnQhPRwTucAzwq.

If you use the same computer, then you should be able to continue from where you left off.

I understand

Q3. What is your name (same as the TDA)?

First and middle name (from the TDA)

Preferred name (if different from first name)

Last Name

Q4. What is your CSUF CWID?

Q5. What is your CSUF email address? (This email address will be used for all correspondence)

Email Address

Q6. What is the best daytime telephone number to reach you at?

Daytime Telephone Number

Q7. What is your date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

Date of Birth

Q8. What is your gender identity?

- Male
- Female
- Transgender
- Non-binary/Non-conforming
- Prefer to self describe:
- Prefer not to respond

Q9. Choose one or more races or ethnic groups that you consider yourself to be:

- African American
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian American
- Filipino
- Mexican American, Mexican
- Other Latino
- Pacific Islander
- White Non-Latino

Prefer not to state

Other (specify)

Q10. What is your primary language?

Q11. What is your primary language?

Q12. Have you been awarded a need-based grant as an undergraduate (e.g., Pell Grant, State University Grant, Cal Grant)?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Q13. Acceptance into one of these programs may affect your future financial aid because of the stipends you will receive during your participation in the program. If you receive financial aid or you take loans (basically a lot of interactions with the Financial Aid office), then please read the following details carefully. It is not urgent, but something that needs to be discussed in more detail after you have been accepted into the program.

The CSUF Financial Aid office disburses the stipends, and the tuition reimbursement is determined by the CSUF Financial Aid office. Graduating prior to the end of the program will terminate program benefits (because they are disbursed through the CSUF Financial Aid office); the BSCR internships end in December, 2025; the second COMPASS internship ends in August, 2026.

The BSCR program provides pre-internship training for 7-month (June-December, 2024), during which there is no compensation from the program. The BSCR interns will receive (i) a monthly stipend of \$3,000 from January-December, 2025 (Annual income of \$36,000/year), and (ii) tuition reimbursement of up to \$3,500/semester for both Spring and Fall semesters in 2025, during their full-time, paid internship. These benefits affect your "Cost of Attendance," and thus loans are not recommended from June, 2024, to December, 2025.

The COMPASS program benefits are: (i) monthly stipend of \$1,000/month during semester, (ii) tuition reimbursement up to \$2,720/semester (Fall 2024 to Spring 2026), and (iii) monthly stipend of \$3,000/month during the full-time summer internships (Summer 2025 and 2026).

- I receive a lot of grants or need substantial loans
- I receive some grants or take some loans
- I do not receive much in grants/loans

Q14. What is your current CSUF student status (in-state/out-of-state)? Again, only CSUF undergraduate students are eligible for the BSCR and COMPASS programs. Your status can affect tax withholdings from your stipend.

- CA resident
- Non-resident, but not international (ex. out of state US citizen, DACA)
- International student

Q15. As per the US IRS rules, international students are required to pay taxes during stipend disbursement. Thus, the stipend that you receive will be reduced, but may be refunded to you depending on your overall US IRS tax filing.

- I understand this reduction of stipend payment and tax liability

Q16. Have you served in the (active or reserve component of the) Armed Forces of the United States?

- Yes
- No

Q17. What is your current mailing address?

Street Address Line 1

Street Address Line 2

City

State

Zip code

Q18. What is your permanent mailing address (if different from above)?

Street Address Line 1

Street Address Line 2

City

State

Zipcode

Q19. Parent, step-parent or guardian A's education?

Q20. Parent, step-parent or guardian B's education?

Q21. How did you hear about the CIRM-funded BSCR and COMPASS programs?

Academic history

Q22. List colleges and universities you have attended (in reverse chronological order):

| | University or College name | Start Year | End Year | Major | Units Completed | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|------------|----------|-------|-----------------|--|
| CSU Fullerton | | | | | | |
| University/College1 | | | | | | |
| University/College2 | | | | | | |
| University/College3 | | | | | | |
| University/College4 | | | | | | |

Q23. What is your highest desired degree?

- Bachelor of Science (B. S.)
- B. S. Double Major
- Master of Science
- Ph. D.
- P.A. / D.O. / M.D.
- Other

Q24. What is your expected graduation term?

| | Semester | Year |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Expected graduation term | <input type="text" value="v"/> | <input type="text" value="v"/> |

Q25. According to your TDA, what is your current Biology GPA (4.00 Scale)?

Q26. Recommendations

The BSCR and COMPASS programs strongly prefer that ALL recommenders/referees complete this online evaluation: https://fullerton.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bfnQhPRwTucAzwq. Please share this link with the recommenders as soon as possible and ask them to complete the evaluation form by April 08, 2024. The recommender's contact will be confirmed by phone or they will be notified of their responses by email. If possible, at least two references should be from science/math professors.

| | Reference 1 | Reference 2 | Reference 3 (optional) |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Name | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Title | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Relationship to you | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| Course(s) completed with instructor | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| | Reference 1 | Reference 2 | Reference 3 (optional) |
| E-mail address | | | |

Courses completed and plans

Q27. Required CSUF Lower Division Core Biology Courses (or equivalent)?

| | Semester | | Year Completed | Grade | Repeated? Yes |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|---|-----------------------|
| | Fall | Spring | | | |
| BIOL 151 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| BIOL 152 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| BIOL 251 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| BIOL 252 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| BIOL 253L | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| BIOL 254L | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Q28. Required Supporting Courses for Biology majors (or equivalent)? Skip any courses you did not take.

| | Semester | | Year Completed | Grade | Repeated? Yes |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|---|-----------------------|
| | Fall | Spring | | | |
| CHEM 120A | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input style="width: 100px;" type="text" value=""/> | <input type="radio"/> |

| | Semester | | Year Completed | Grade | Repeated? Yes |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Fall | Spring | | | |
| CHEM 120B | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| CHEM 301A | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| CHEM 301B | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| CHEM 302 or 306A | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| MATH 130 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| MATH 150A | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| MATH 150B | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| MATH 338 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| PHYS 211 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| PHYS 211L | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| PHYS 212 | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| PHYS 212L | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Q29. Other Biology and Biochemistry courses not listed in the previous two questions.

| | Course number | Semester | | Year Completed | Grade | Repeated? |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| | (e.g., BIOL 302) | Fall | Spring | | | Yes |
| Course 1 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 2 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 3 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 4 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 5 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 6 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 7 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 8 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 9 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Course 10 | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Narratives

Q30. Please prepare thoughtful and clear responses to the following three questions (four for both programs) in text editing software such as MS Word or Notepad. You may use these questions to address any challenges you have faced during your academic journey. Your responses should be between 200–250 words (minimum: 1,000 characters).

Q31. Please describe your personality traits (with examples) that will help you to succeed in a research-intensive program, such as the BSCR and COMPASS programs.

Q32. How will the BSCR or COMPASS program advance your career goals?

Q33. Describe how one of the programs (BSCR vs. COMPASS) is better suited for your academic and career plans? You may include your plans and aspects that determine your decisions for 2025 and 2026.

Q34. Describe a recent biology- or medicine-related current event that has piqued your interest. Please explain how this connects with your perspectives about stem cell biology, gene therapy, or regenerative medicine.

Assurances and Signature

Q35.

1. The BSCR Scholars will:
2. Participate FULL-TIME in BSCR activities from May 29th, 2024, to December 19th, 2025. To be successful at the internship site, we expect that the students selected into the program will spend more than 40 hours/week on BSCR activities, coursework, research, etc. during the summer and fall 2024, and work diligently at their internship from January-December in 2025.
3. All activities during summer and fall 2024 (starting May 29th) are in-person on CSUF campus and do not require out-of-pocket expenses from the intern. These preparatory activities are:

- (a) Learn fundamental stem cell biology through lectures and guided analysis of research articles so that you are prepared for the virtual ISSCR conference (July 10–13, 2024)
 - (b) Learn foundational cell and molecular biology laboratory skills in DBH-102 (or the Patel lab)
 - (c) Engage in research experiences
 - (d) Participate in required workshops (e.g., leadership, interview skills, and stem cell ethics)
 - (e) Enroll and complete the selected course on regulatory affairs (the program pays for this course)
3. Enroll and successfully complete the required BSCR courses (BIOL 329, BIOL 427, BIOL 429, BIOL 480C, and BIOL 499L) during Fall 2024. All of these courses apply towards upper-division biology electives for Cell and Developmental Biology (C&D) and Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (MBB) concentrations.
 4. NOT enroll in additional courses during your participation in the BSCR program (May 2024 to December 2025) without a written (email) permission from Dr. Patel. We can discuss the courses remaining and graduation dates after acceptance into the BSCR program.
 5. Pay tuition for the Fall 2024 semester.
 6. Complete a 12-month, full-time, paid internship at our partnering universities or biotechnology companies from January 13th, 2025, to December 19th, 2025.
 7. Enroll in the BSCR courses (BIOL 299, BIOL 480, BIOL 495 and BIOL 499L) during Spring and Fall 2025 semesters.

Please see the BSCR website for the program requirements.

CIRM expects a full-time commitment to the internship research projects in the internship lab during 2025. Thus, BSCR

Scholars are not allowed to enroll in any other courses at any institution during their internship, and are not allowed to work anywhere aside from their internship lab.

Graduation date: If accepted into the BSCR program, you must change your graduation date to December 2025 or later by filing a form with Admission & Records. Applicants are advised not to file this form until they have been accepted into the program. The BSCR program can only provide the program benefits to CSUF undergraduate students in good academic standing.

I understand and agree with these terms

Q36. **COMPASS program requirements.** The COMPASS Scholars will:

1. Participate in COMPASS activities from Fall 2024 to Summer 2026 that include coursework, research, summer internships, community service, patient engagement activities, workshops, and field trips.
2. Complete a 10- to 12-week internship in both Summer 2025 and Summer 2026.
3. Engage in research in one of the biology or biochemistry labs at CSU Fullerton during academic years 2024-25 and 2025-26.
4. Enroll and successfully complete the required coursework.
5. Maintain satisfactory academic progress while a COMPASS scholar.
6. Any exceptions to the above activities must be approved by the Program Director, Dr. Miyamoto.
7. Obtain a stem cell biology-related job after graduation for at least a year.

CIRM expects a serious commitment to the COMPASS

program. The financial support is designed to reduce or eliminate the need for COMPASS scholars to have off-campus jobs, so that scholars can participate in on-campus research, academic study, and program activities. If outside work or extracurricular activities interfere with the active participation of a scholar in COMPASS activities, the program reserves the right to dismiss the scholar from the program.

Graduation date: If accepted, you must change your graduation date to Summer 2026 or later by filing a form with Admission & Records. Applicants are advised not to file this form until they have been accepted into the program. The COMPASS program can only provide the program benefits to CSUF undergraduate students in good academic standing.

I understand and agree with these terms

Q37.

Financial aid and tax liability disclaimer: Acceptance into either BSCR or COMPASS program can impact your financial aid for 2025 and beyond (because of the change in your annual income). Depending on your student status or personal details, the stipend may affect your income tax liability.

Application submission: By signing below and submitting this application, you certify that (i) the information provided in this application is accurate, (ii) you understand that a full-time commitment is needed to complete the BSCR or COMPASS program requirements, and (iii) you will work diligently to complete all of the items required for the program. Falsification of information or non-compliance during the program could lead to dismissal from the program and void financial compensation or reimbursement of tuition fees. Please sign or enter your name below.

SIGN HERE

×

clear

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