This opportunity is currently closed. Please check back around October 2026!

Requests for Summer Cohort-Based Undergraduate Research Experiences (SCUREs)

Announcement Date: October 10, 2025
Submission Date: November 14, 2025
Awards Announced: December 1, 2025
Award Period: May 10 - July 31, 2026

Section I. Funding Opportunity Description

The Alaska IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) is supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health. An objective of the Alaska INBRE Student Research Program is to engage undergraduates in One Health research. To fulfill this objective, we are seeking proposals to provide summer research experiences for undergraduate students participating in a 10-week (May 18 - July 24) full-time First Research Experience (FiRE) summer program.

The FiRE program begins with a 3-day virtual bootcamp where undergraduate students will be introduced to the basics of research, including data management, research ethics, and career and academic goal setting, before launching off to conduct research at one of the UA campuses, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC), Southcentral Foundation (SCF) or in Utqiaġvik, AK, home of Iḷisaġvik College. Throughout the research experience, students will meet weekly for a virtual career development workshop. At the conclusion of the research experience, students will present their research at a virtual AK INBRE conference that brings together all student FiRE participants, URA Summer Scholars, and INBRE-funded investigators. During the award period, students will receive an hourly wage and may apply for additional funding for room, board and travel.

Funds for developing and leading a 10-week SCURE may be requested to provide salary and benefit support during the award period. Priority will be given to SCUREs that will enhance the PIs research program and potentially lead to student-co-authored publications and proposals for external funding.

Applicants are encouraged to discuss summer workload plans with their supervisor.

Section II. Award information

AK INBRE will make 1 SCURE award. If there are meritorious applications, additional funds will be requested. Each SCURE must involve a minimum of 4 students. Preference will be given to SCUREs that utilize one or more of the INBRE Core Resources (see Core and Project Areas). Applicants are encouraged to consider how the SCURE may be used to generate data for a grant proposal and peer-reviewed publications. AK INBRE will solicit student applications for the

FiRE program and awardees will have the opportunity to contribute to the review of applications before students are accepted into the program.

Award period: The award period is defined above. Applicants can apply for funding in future years following successful completion and delivery of the SCURE.

Award budget: AK INBRE SCURE awards will pay applicant(s) salary and benefits (at existing rates) for developing and leading a SCURE for the award period, as well as up to $5000 for supplies required for the SCURE. Applicants may request up to $30,000. Student support will be provided via the FiRE mechanism.

Section III. Eligibility Information

Applicants (individual or multi-PI) may be a faculty member, post-doc, or researcher at a UA campus, Iḷisaġvik College, ANTHC or SCF.

Section IV. Application and submission information

A complete application will consist of a single PDF document that includes the following sections:

(1) Title page: To include a brief title; applicant's name, institution and department; fiscal point of contact and contact information.

(2) Project summary: A one-page summary of the research aims and learning objectives of the SCURE.

(3) Budget and budget justification: A detailed 1-2 page budget and justification. Funds may be requested for salary, benefits, services and supplies.

(4) Biosketch: An NIH-style biosketch completed using SciENcv.

(5) Specific aims: A description of the specific aims the students will address in the SCURE and how they relate to One Health.

(6) Research plan: A 3-5 page description of the SCURE that includes the research objectives, methods employed and taught, learning objectives, and the plan for continuing the SCURE beyond year 1. The research plan may also include how student training will utilize one or more of the INBRE Core Resources, a plan for generating at least one peer-reviewed manuscript, and the potential for using data generated during the SCURE for developing a grant proposal.

(7) Literature cited

(8) A schedule with a description of the topics and/or research to be covered each week during the SCURE.

(9) Results from prior support: If applicable, a description of results or outcomes from any prior INBRE support, including external proposals, peer-reviewed publications and/or presentations.

(10) Human subjects/ IACUC approval letter if applicable

Submission
UA applicants, please complete the Google form and submit your application. ANTHC, SCF, and Ilisagvik, please complete the Google form and submit your application via ua-inbre@alaska.edu email address. If you do not receive confirmation of receipt within two business days, please reach out to ua-inbre@alaska.edu. Applicants should prepare text documents using any word processing program and then convert those files to a single .pdf document.

PDF FORMAT REQUIRED
Save all files as follows: researcher last name_Institution_Year_SCUREApp.
Example: Smith_UAS_2025_SCUREApp. If you do not receive an acknowledgement email within two business days, please contact Alaska INBRE at ua-inbre@alaska.edu to confirm receipt of your application.

Section V. Application Review Information

The INBRE Student Research Program Co-Directors and INBRE leadership will review the proposals and score them based on the review criteria listed below, using the standard NIH scoring scheme (1=exceptional; 2=outstanding; 3=excellent; 4=very good; 5=good; 6=satisfactory; 7=fair; 8=marginal; 9=poor). Applicants will be notified by Dec. 1 if their proposal has been funded. All applicants will be provided with feedback regarding the strengths and weaknesses of their proposals.

Review Criteria: The degree to which the proposal:

1. Clearly articulates the significance of the research focus of the SCURE and its relevance to One Health.

2. Demonstrates that the proposed methods, activities, and materials constitute a well formulated approach to learning, teaching, and research.

3. Clearly articulates the expected learning outcomes.

4. Positively impacts the career development of 4 or more students.

5. Provides evidence that the proposed SCURE will lead to student-coauthored peer-reviewed publications and/or extramural grant proposals.

Section VI. Award Administration Information

SCURE Award recipients will:

1. Agree to lead the SCURE for the award period.

2. Support students in presenting the results of their research project as a poster at the annual INBRE Network-wide Annual Research Conference (NARC) held in September.

3. Provide Alaska INBRE with a 2-page summary of the SCURE and examples of any teaching and assessment materials developed. The summary and associated materials are due **September 15, 2026,** and will be submitted using the INBRE Piestar reporting database.

4. Comply with NIH guidelines and obtain an eRA Commons account if not yet in place.

5. Properly cite Alaska INBRE and the NIH in all research presentations and publications using the following language:

   Research reported in this publication was supported by an Institutional Development Award (IDeA) from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the National Institutes of Health under grant number **P20GM103395**. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily reflect the official views of the NIH.

Section VII. Program Contacts

PI/Director Jason Burkhead
Associate Director Julie Benson
Fiscal Officer Dawniel Dupee
Student Research Program Co-Directors Kristin O'Brien, Jonathan Stecyk
CBPR Core Director Katie Cueva
Research Analytic Core Director Patrick Tomco
Data Science Core Director Devin Drown

Section VIII. Other Information

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Alaska INBRE follows the NIH Guidelines for Conflict of Interests.

University of Alaska is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer, educational institution, and provider, and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual: www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination.