



Nebraska's Institutional Development Awards (IDeA) Networks  
of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE)

## \$16,500 Fellowship in Biomedical Research The INBRE Scholar Program

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

INBRE is a scholarship program that selects highly qualified undergraduates for an unparalleled opportunity to pursue original biomedical research within multiple academic laboratories in Nebraska. It is geared to those aspiring to pursue advanced education in biomedical research (i.e. a Ph.D. degree). The program requires a two-year commitment. Usually, 3–5 new students will be selected as INBRE scholars each year. For general information, visit the website [www.unmc.edu/inbre](http://www.unmc.edu/inbre).

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Any student, generally in their second year, who will not graduate until **May 2027** is eligible. Students pursuing a major in Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) are ideally suited for this program. This program is intended for students considering educational or employment opportunities in a field of biomedical/STEM research after completion of their undergraduate degree, although other career trajectories are possible.

### PROGRAM BENEFITS:

- \$4,000 for the first summer conducting research at a major research institution in Nebraska; \$4,000 for each academic year of participation; and \$4,500 for the second summer for research conducted at the scholar's home institution.
- Free housing for the first and second summers. If housing is not needed, then an additional \$1,000 will be added to each summer stipend.

### PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

- **Complete a 10-week summer training program** in biomedical research within a laboratory at UNMC, UNL or Creighton (in 2025, starting May 27<sup>th</sup> and ending August 5<sup>th</sup>) during the 1<sup>st</sup> summer in the program. Scholars must devote full time effort (40 hours per week). Outside employment and enrollment in summer courses are NOT allowed.
- **Join an INBRE-supported research laboratory** at UNO and conduct original research for the next two academic years and the summer in between. This will require 40 hours/week during the summer and at least 10 hours/week during the academic year. The current options for labs at UNO are: **Dr. Jill Blankenship**, **Dr. Paul Davis**, **Dr. Paul Denton**, and **Dr. Ryan Wong**.
- **Present research results** during both junior and senior years at the annual INBRE meeting in August 2025/26 and the Nebraska Academy of Sciences meeting in April 2026/27. Presenting at additional local, regional, and national venues is also strongly encouraged if resources and circumstances allow.

*Note: This program involves a significant time commitment that likely would preclude INBRE Scholars from working at another job. Considering this expectation, the NE-INBRE program therefore provides the generous stipends described above to help address scholars' financial obligations. For further info, contact Dr. Blankenship at [jrblankenship@unomaha.edu](mailto:jrblankenship@unomaha.edu).*

### INBRE Scholar Application

A complete application packet for the INBRE scholar program must be submitted by **December 13, 2024** electronically to [jrblankenship@unomaha.edu](mailto:jrblankenship@unomaha.edu)

**A complete application consists of the following items, submitted together as one document in the following order:**

- **Application form** (two pages, see attached)
- **Statement of Interest:** up to 2 pages, double-spaced, 11 pt font. Address each of the following questions:
  - Why are you interested in biomedical research? Indicate where you first heard about the INBRE program.
  - What are your future educational and career goals following graduation from UNO?
  - Do you have any research experience? How will this program benefit your career goals?
  - Which UNO lab(s) you are most interested in working within (see list above) and why?

Note: You are strongly encouraged to speak to former or current INBRE scholars. Insights gained from such conversation(s) regarding the INBRE program will likely strengthen your Statement of Interest.

- **Copy of most recent university unofficial transcript**
- **Resume/CV**

**Also: Arrange for one letter of recommendation to be directly sent to Dr. Jill Blankenship.** The letter should address the applicant's scientific potential, academic prowess, and character. Email or paper format is acceptable, **and late recommendation letters WILL BE accepted** if you are accepted for interview.

**Students selected for interviews will be contacted by the INBRE campus coordinator, Dr. Jill Blankenship.**



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### Personal Information (please print legibly)

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident?  Yes  No

### Academics

Class Status Fr. So. Jr. Sr.

Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Minor(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative GPA \_\_\_\_\_ STEM GPA \_\_\_\_\_

### Recommendation Letter

*Ask your reference to send their letter by email directly to Dr. Jill Blankenship (jrblankenship@unomaha.edu) by the application deadline. Late reference letters will be accepted if you are selected for interview.*

Reference

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_



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I certify that the information in this application is correct, and I authorize INBRE faculty to view my academic records. If selected as an INBRE Scholar, I **agree** to the following conditions for continuance in the program:

1. I will complete the ten-week Research Foundations Workshop held on the campuses of UNMC, UNL and CUMC during my first summer in the program. This includes attending orientation day as well as regular attendance at the INBRE Seminar Series every Monday. I realize that the Research Foundations Workshop is considered a full-time commitment to the INBRE program, and additional activities such as taking summer courses or holding part-time jobs during the summer MUST receive permission from the INBRE campus director.
2. I understand and agree that if I do not complete the full ten-week program, I am responsible for repayment of the total scholarship received, minus the pro-rated amount for the weeks that I did participate. Repayment is due within 30 days of leaving the program unless arrangements are agreed upon by UNMC.
3. I will maintain participation in a research project on my home/transfer campus during the next two academic years and my second summer in the program. During the academic year, my part-time involvement will include **working a minimum of ten hours per week** on my research project. During my second summer in the program, my full-time commitment will include **working the equivalent of 40 hours per week for 10 weeks** on my research project.
4. I will attend and present my research results at the annual Nebraska Academy of Sciences Meeting held in April and the annual NE-INBRE Conference held in August. I understand that attendance at the entire annual NE-INBRE conference and participation in all sessions is required.
5. I will submit yearly progress reports to my faculty mentor no later than May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
6. I will maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0.
7. I will attend the statewide journal club that meets twice per semester.
8. I will attend the INBRE journal club on UNO's campus each Spring and Fall semester.
9. I will try my best to be an exemplary representative of the NE-INBRE program, which is known and respected throughout the state of Nebraska. I will maintain a high level of professional conduct that includes displaying proper respect for my mentor, other faculty, staff and students at the academic institutions participating in the INBRE program, as well as proper attitude, behavior, dress and adherence to lab safety rules.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_