MISSISSIPPI INBRE
IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence

Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA):
Curriculum-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CURE)

1. Funding Opportunity Description

The Mississippi IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (MS-INBRE) invites faculty at Predominately Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs) to apply for the **Curriculum-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CURE)** under the MS-INBRE Developmental Research Project Program.

The purpose of this FOA is **to strengthen science education at Mississippi PUIs** by supporting enhancement of biomedical sciences curriculum that actively engage undergraduate students. These awards provide **up to $10,000 per year for one year.**

Required Classroom Component: These awards require the involvement of classroom-based activities and are intended to engage as many students as possible in the research enterprise. Applicants must show evidence of institutional support with letters indicating agreement of administrators to introduce new laboratory activities into course offerings and sufficient facilities to conduct research activity.

Undergraduate Engagement: Participation of undergraduate students in the curriculum-based enhancement project is mandatory and should be clearly described in the application.

Award Milestones: Recipients are expected to meet specific milestones during the award period, including progress on research aims, student involvement, and curriculum enhancement activities.

2. Eligibility

Applicants must be **full-time, permanent faculty members** at a Mississippi Predominately Undergraduate Institution (PUI) with rank of **Assistant Professor or higher**.

Restrictions:

- Faculty from Mississippi research-intensive universities (USM, MSU, JSU, UM, UMMC) are not eligible.

- Individuals with active NIH funding (including COBRE or CTR-IN) at the time of award are ineligible.
- Only one application per cycle may be submitted.

Preferred Applicant:

- Preference will be given to applications from faculty not supported by a MS INBRE Project Development Grant (PDG), Research Initiation Grant (RIG), or Supplement.

3. Award Amounts

- Total allowable direct costs: **$10,000 for 1 year**
- Indirect costs (F&A) are in addition to the allowable direct costs.

4. Key Dates

- Full Applications: July 31, 2026
- Award Period: September 1, 2026 - August 31, 2027

5. Mississippi INBRE Network Resources

MS-INBRE network resources are available to strengthen your curriculum project.

a. Core facilities or specialized equipment, https://msinbre.org/core-facilities/.
b. Bioinformatics or data analysis support, https://msinbre.org/dsc-services/.

6. Proposal Submission Requirements

A Curriculum-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CURE) application must include the following components. All documents should follow NIH formatting guidelines (11-point Arial font, 0.5-inch margins).

A. **Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) Letter**
Attach a letter signed by your institution's AOR confirming:
   - Review and approval of the proposal and budget.
   - Institutional support of administrators to introduce new laboratory activities into course offerings.

B. **Budget and Budget Justification**
Submit the NIH Research & Related Budget Form with detailed justification (Section L).
   - Justify all proposed expenses for the award period.
   - NIH Budget Form instructions: NIH Budget Guide

C. **NIH Biographical Sketches**
Provide biosketches for:

- Principal Investigator

Use SciENcv: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sciencv/

D. **Proposal Narrative (2 pages total, not including references)**
   Address the following in no more than 2 pages:
   - Plans for undergraduate student involvement
   - Research question or hypothesis to be addressed
   - Scientific methods or processes students will use or develop
   - How will students analyze and interpret results?
   - What are the specific outcomes and goals?
   - What is the anticipated enrollment?
   - How will course success be evaluated?

E. **Bibliography/References, if applicable** (no page limit)