

# MCHC/RISE-UP

## A National Consortium of Universities Committed to Diversifying the Public Health Workforce

The Maternal Child Health Careers/Research Initiatives for Student Enhancement-Undergraduate Program (**MCHC/RISE-UP**) provides opportunities for public health education and experience to address health disparities and promote health equity. MCHC/RISE-UP grant funding was awarded to Kennedy Krieger Institute by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to develop a national consortium of institutions and universities built on the Maternal and Child Health Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Other Related Disabilities (LEND) training. Through this program, university partners from across the nation offer learning opportunities for students.

The goal of MCHC/RISE-UP is to promote a more diversified and equal health outcome system for citizens by introducing highly qualified undergraduate students (juniors and seniors with a GPA of 2.7 or better on a 4.0 scale, and students who received their baccalaureate degree within 12 months of beginning the MCHC/RISE-UP program) to the field of public health. All students interested in addressing health disparities are eligible to apply. Students who are members of underrepresented populations, as defined by the federal government ([diversity.nih.gov/about-us/population-underrepresented](https://diversity.nih.gov/about-us/population-underrepresented)), are strongly encouraged to apply.

### Our Partners

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- **Kennedy Krieger Institute**
- **Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities**
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities
  - Morgan State University
  - Coppin State University
  - Howard University
- The Johns Hopkins University
  - Bloomberg School of Public Health
  - School of Medicine
  - School of Nursing
- University of California, Davis
- University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine's Center for Disabilities
- Aaniih Nakoda College



### Our Program Activities

**The summer program is provided at four sites:**

- Kennedy Krieger Institute/The Johns Hopkins University
- University of California, Davis
- University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine
- Aaniiih Nakoda College/Fort Belknap programs

**Students may choose up to two public health leadership tracks.**

### Leadership Tracks

1. **Clinical/Community:** Students rotate through clinical experiences provided by maternal and child health disciplines (pediatrics, psychiatry, neurology, physiatry, physical therapy, occupational therapy, nutrition, social work, psychology, speech-language pathology, special education and nursing). In addition, students gain experience in providing community-based healthcare and community support systems for underserved groups.



Kennedy Krieger Institute

2. **Community Engagement and Advocacy:** Students work with professionals, who specialize in assisting individuals with developmental disabilities and/or who work in public health and related systems, on forming, implementing and evaluating healthcare and disability legislation, regulations and practice guidelines. The critical importance of engaging underrepresented communities is particularly emphasized.
3. **Research:** Students work with research mentors on a wide range of public health, prevention, treatment and epidemiological studies. Students receive training in community-based participatory research, which engages communities currently underserved by mainstream systems.

## Program Benefits

1. A comprehensive orientation held at Kennedy Krieger introduces students to information on health disparities, men's health, HIV/AIDS, obesity, cancer, community violence, infectious diseases, LGBTQ+ health challenges, and prevention of and treatment for drug abuse.
2. The experience allows students to select one or two of the three leadership tracks that best meet their individual needs.
3. Students meet and work with experts in their respective clinical, community and research fields.
4. Students meet other students with similar career interests.
5. Students may attend a public health orientation seminar at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia (in-person/virtual).
6. A \$3,500 stipend (\$3,000 UC Davis only), transportation and housing may be provided.
7. Students gain experience presenting health and research information to colleagues and mentors.
8. Weekly distance learning seminars are offered throughout the summer.

## What Do Former MCHC/RISE-UP Students Say?

"I learned valuable information and was inspired by the speakers, their individual journeys, and the level of devotion they invested in our success as young people. I returned home a different person...a young, aspiring public health professional with a new sense of responsibility and passion for reducing health disparities in the U.S."

"I learned an enormous amount of valuable information that I will definitely use in my career...this internship is an amazing opportunity."

"The RISE-UP staff was excellent! They offered so much knowledge and help during the program, from research experience to future career plans and goals. The program seemed like a big family."

## Contact and Application Information

Please visit [KennedyKrieger.org/RISE-UP](https://KennedyKrieger.org/RISE-UP) or email [MCHC-RISE-UP@KennedyKrieger.org](mailto:MCHC-RISE-UP@KennedyKrieger.org) for more information or to apply.

Application must be submitted by January 31.

For general Kennedy Krieger Institute information, visit [KennedyKrieger.org](https://KennedyKrieger.org) or call **888-554-2080**.

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