Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine offers an all-expense paid summer institute program, initiated and funded by the NHLBI, to increase diversity in the field of Cardiovascular Disease Comorbidities, Genetics and Epidemiology. Junior faculty and researchers (mentees) from under-represented backgrounds in the biomedical and behavioral sciences and/or with disabilities qualify. The program involves:

**Two consecutive summers with 2-week all-expense paid summer institute, Mid-Year & Annual Meeting to:**

- Establish partnerships between Mentors and Mentees based on mutual research interests
- Participate in training via lectures and workshops on various topics related to Cardiovascular Disease Comorbidities, Genetics, and Epidemiology
- Participate in special grant-writing sessions conducted by NHLBI scientific program staff and PRIDE faculty
- Compete for Small Research Project (SRP) funding for generating preliminary data for subsequent NHLBI grant applications
- Develop the skills needed to apply for research grants and promoting a sustainable independent research program for career development