

## ABOUT PRIDE-FTG PROGRAM

The Programs to Increase Diversity Among Individuals Engaged (PRIDE) in Health-Related Research is an all-expense paid research career advancing opportunity funded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) since 2010. This mentoring program addresses the difficulties experienced by junior investigators in establishing independent research careers and achieving full professor status at academic institutions. The desired outcome is to improve the recruitment and retention of diverse faculty conducting biomedical or health sciences research. PRIDE-FTG promotes diversity and belonging in the workforce nationally and engages junior-level scientists in research efforts related to heart, lung, blood, and sleep disorders.

For additional information visit our website:



[www.augusta.edu/mcg/pride/](http://www.augusta.edu/mcg/pride/)

## CONTACT

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Program Manager

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**PRIDE - FUNCTIONAL AND  
TRANSLATIONAL GENOMICS  
OF BLOOD DISORDERS**

Augusta University

Georgia Cancer Center

Attention: Natasha Alford

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Augusta, GA 30912



**Programs to Increase Diversity  
Among Individuals Engaged in  
Health-Related Research - Functional  
and Translational Genomics  
(PRIDE-FTG) of Blood Disorders**

**FUNDED BY**

The National Institutes of Health  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute



**GEORGIA  
CANCER CENTER**  
AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY

The PRIDE Program hosted by Augusta University is designed to train junior faculty to do bench and clinical research related to hemoglobin and red blood cell membrane

diseases. Functional and translational genomic approaches will be used to investigate mechanisms of globin gene regulation and proteomics to study the red blood cell membrane in health and disease. During the Institutes, mentees will learn how to access public databases established by the Human Genome Project and to perform basic data mining procedures. The program objectives include:

- Providing fundamental hands-on bench research training by interdisciplinary faculty in the areas of genomics, cell and molecular biology and proteomics.
- Establishing mentor-mentee partnerships based on mutual research interests.
- Providing grant workshops conducted by NHLBI and AU staff to assist mentees with developing a research focus. We will also advise on identifying viable funding sources to promote a sustainable and independent research program for career advancement.
- Establish a peer-mentoring network to facilitate scientific collaboration, professional development, and social support.

**Cohort 12 Summer  
Institute 1 July 7-18, 2025**

### Application Deadline:

Applications for the 2025 PRIDE-FTG Cohort will be accepted until April 30, 2025 or until all positions are filled.



Scan QR Code  
to begin the  
pre-application.

## PRIDE PROGRAM OVERVIEW

### Who may apply?

Junior research faculty at accredited research institutions interested in research in health-related fields may apply. The final selection of participants will be based on merit, while also considering the potential of individuals to conduct biomedical research and increase diversity in the work force on a national or institutional basis.

### What is the purpose of PRIDE?

To ensure that every United States citizen is provided an equal opportunity to gain the skills and knowledge necessary to compete in the scientific workforce and to enrich the quality of scientific discoveries to treat human disease by infusing intellectual diversity of perspective throughout the scientific enterprise.

### How does the PRIDE Program work?

- PRIDE is an all-expense-paid training opportunity that brings participants to Augusta University during two consecutive, 10-14 days summer institutes; a visit to the mentor's institution and annual workshop in Washington, DC.
- Mentor-mentee partnerships will be chosen based on 1) research interests, 2) mentor's experience in research and grant writing, and 3) establishing long-term collaborations.
- The didactic curricula involve faculty and mentors from multiple disciplines with various levels of hands-on training.
- Special emphasis will be placed on the development of grantsmanship skills and specific research projects with mentors to improve fundability.

## PRIDE PROGRAM MENTORS

**Robert W. Gibson, Ph.D.**  
Emergency Medicine  
Augusta University

**John D. Belcher, Ph.D.**  
Vascular Biology  
University of Minnesota

**Lindsey Cohen, Ph.D.**  
Clinical Psychology  
University of Georgia

**Benjamin Ebert, M.D./Ph.D.**  
Stem Cell Biology  
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

**Ifeyinwa (Ify) Osunkwo, M.D.**  
Health Services  
Maya Angelou Center for  
Health Disparities

**Sandra Murray, Ph.D.**  
Cell Biology  
University of Pittsburgh

**Abdullah Kutlar, M.D.**  
Adult Hematology  
Augusta University

**Mohandas Narla, D.Sc.**  
Red Cell Physiology  
New York Blood Center

**Betty S. Pace, M.D.**  
Pediatrics and Biochemistry  
and Molecular Biology  
Augusta University

**Hyacinth Hyacinth  
Ph.D./M.PH.**  
Neurologic complications in  
Sickle Cell Disease  
University of Cincinnati

**Kenneth Peterson, Ph.D.**  
Biochemistry Molecular Biology  
University of Kansas

**Raymona Lawrence, Dr.PH.**  
Public Health Research  
Georgia Southern University

**Joseph Telfair, Dr.PH.,  
M.PH**  
Public Health Research  
Georgia Southern University

**Marsha Treadwell, Ph.D.**  
Hematology and Psychiatry  
Children's Hospital Oakland

**Andrew Weyrich, Ph.D.**  
Hemostasis and Thrombosis  
Oklahoma Medical Research  
Foundation

**Claudia R. Morris, M.D.**  
Emergency Medicine  
Emory University

**Wally Smith, M.D.**  
Implementation Sciences  
Virginia Commonwealth  
University

**Theodosia A. Kalfa,  
M.D./Ph.D.**  
Stem Cell Biology  
University of Cincinnati

**Mitchell Weiss, M.D., Ph.D.**  
Hematology  
St. Jude Research Children's  
Hospital

**Steven Goodman, Ph.D.**  
Department of Medicine  
University of Tennessee  
Health Sciences Center