

NCI Cancer Research Postbac (CRP) Program Frequently Asked Questions

Last Updated December 15, 2023

1. If I am ineligible for CRP, what are other ways to obtain a postbac training opportunity at NCI?
 - a. The following **pathways** are available to you:
 - i. Use the [Train at NCI – Find a Training Program tool](#) to identify other programs of interest.
 - ii. Review the research areas in the individual divisions, offices, and centers and contact the investigator directly.
 - iii. Submit your CV/resume to the NIH database or [NCI Future Fellows database](#). Investigators with open positions may contact you directly.
 - iv. Review open fellowship postings: please see [Cancer Training at NCI](#) for a list of opportunities across NCI Divisions, Offices, and Centers.
2. How large is the CRP Cohort?
 - a. Up to 20 postbac fellows will be accepted for participation in the 2024 CRP Cohort, which is the 3rd cohort for this program.
3. What is the CRP acceptance rate?
 - a. The acceptance rate varies from year-to-year based on the number of applicants, available postbac slots, and research interests/matching with investigators.
4. Where is the research conducted?
 - a. NCI research is conducted across three different campuses in the state of Maryland:
 - i. NIH's Main Campus in Bethesda, Maryland
 - ii. Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research in Frederick, Maryland
 - iii. Shady Grove in Rockville, Maryland
 - b. Opportunities for telework are limited and are considered by investigators on a case-by-case basis.
5. What if I don't meet the GPA requirement of 3.2?
 - a. Individuals who do not meet the minimum GPA requirements for CRP should consider other pathways to obtaining a training opportunity at NCI (see question 1).
6. Should I reach out to NCI investigators during the CRP application process?
 - a. We do not recommend that CRP applicants contact NCI investigators during the application process. Following notifications on March 18, selected applicants will be contacted by NCI investigators to arrange interviews for the matching process.
7. Are you more likely to be accepted based on level of prior research experience?
 - a. All CRP applicants are expected to demonstrate current or past research experience. Acceptance into the program is based on a variety of factors including research experience and other components of the application, as well as matching with the investigator's research area.

8. Are individuals with Master's level degrees eligible to apply for CRP?
 - a. CRP is limited to individuals post-bachelor's degree. For other opportunities available to master's level students, please visit the general NIH postbac program website: <https://www.training.nih.gov/research-training/pb/pb/>.