ASBMB Distinguished Undergraduate Fellowship

The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB) Distinguished Undergraduate Fellowship offers financial support to students who demonstrate an interest in the fields of biochemistry and molecular biology and who enhance the diversity of science. Students whose social, educational or economic background adds to the diversity of the biomedical workforce or who show a commitment to increasing educational access for underrepresented students are eligible.

The following are examples of ways a student could enhance diversity:

- Student has successfully overcome significant educational, social, cultural or economic disadvantage or adversity in a way that would enable him or her to contribute to their campus community.
- Student has unique circumstances, experiences, skills or talents that would benefit others and would enhance the diversity of their program or campus.
- Student has a strong interest in undertaking research that would address issues of diversity as it relates to ethnic communities, social equity and justice or economic opportunity.
- Student has shown a deep commitment to working with others, through such activities as mentoring or tutoring, to promote educational access to higher education for underserved groups.

Examples of experiences that indicate a student has overcome disadvantage or adversity include:

- Education in a school or college with limited facilities and educational opportunities.
- Low family income, or working full time in high school or as an undergraduate to support family and/or to pay for college.
- Being the first member of immediate family to complete college.
- Overcoming other social, cultural or economic barriers to pursue an education. The specific race, ethnicity, gender or national origin of a nominee is not considered in selection, although barriers arising from these personal circumstances are considered.

Eligibility

Applicants for an ASBMB Distinguished Undergraduate Fellowship must:

- Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. national or permanent resident at the time of application. Foreign nationals who are in the U.S. on a visa are not eligible.
- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time student at an accredited two- or four-year institution located in the U.S. or U.S. territories.
- Have a grade point average of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0-point scale.
- Be a member of the ASBMB. Undergraduates can join the ASBMB either directly or by joining a local undergraduate student chapter at a participating institution.

For more information visit: [http://www.asbmb.org/membertypes/](http://www.asbmb.org/membertypes/)
Fellowship Award Information

- The fellowship will provide up to $2000 of financial support for one academic year. The fellowship must be used toward tuition fees, and will be administered in the fall and/or spring semesters.
- Applications by individuals from underrepresented groups are encouraged, although all qualified applicants will be considered without regard to race, gender, color, ethnicity or national origin.
- Up to five fellowships will be awarded in each application cycle.
- Contingent upon the availability of funding, the ASBMB Minority Affairs Committee may invite fellowship recipients to apply for an additional fellowship in subsequent semesters / years.

Application Instructions

Each applicant should prepare the following documents in PDF format:

- Academic transcript.
- Statement of research experience and career goals (*two pages maximum*).
- Statement on significant educational, social, cultural, or economic barriers faced by the applicant in pursuit of their education. Please include a detailed description of the barrier(s) as well as any unique insights, perspectives or skills gained while tackling this challenge (*two pages maximum*).
- Statement demonstrating the applicant’s commitment to diversity in the past and their plan to increase diversity on campus and in the scientific community as a whole. For example, the applicant is encouraged to describe personal experiences, contributions and accomplishments that demonstrate their commitment to improving educational opportunities and/or quality of life for diverse groups (*two pages maximum*).

Applicants should submit the above documents via the fellowship website:  
http://www.asbmb.org/MinorityAffairs/UndergraduateFellowship/

The deadline for applications is **Monday, May 18, 2015**.

Any questions about the ASBMB Distinguished Undergraduate Fellowship should be sent to education@asbmb.org