

# Q & A

## BRIDGES TO THE BACCALAUREATE

### **What is Bridges to the Baccalaureate and why should I apply?**

Bridges to the Baccalaureate is a summer program supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). By providing experience in the science and research community, the program opens the door for students considering a career in medical related fields, including the biomedical research field. For a period of 9 weeks, selected students and faculty spend a summer at California State University, Long Beach laboratories participating in hands-on research. In addition, bridges students receive a bimonthly stipend, fieldtrip opportunities, social activities, and many more educational opportunities.

### **What will I do in bridges?**

You will have the opportunity to join an ongoing research laboratory team and expand your knowledge about the research field and its opportunities. In addition, you will be working alongside faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students of CSULB. You will also have the opportunity to meet and work with other community college students. At the end of the program you will present your research work at our annual poster symposium—we provide a support system to guide you along the way.

### **Who should apply?**

- Students that enjoy science and want to learn more about what it means to be an active researcher
- Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biology, or other science majors seeking laboratory experiences
- Students having completed **24 units** or more by summer 2009 and **GPA 2.5** or higher
- U.S. citizens and permanent residents
- African American, Native American, Hispanic American, and Pacific Islander students are strongly encouraged to apply

### **What's in it for me?**

- This can go on your resume and it also looks GREAT when you apply to universities and professional schools.
- This is an opportunity to advance academically, thus making you a more competitive student
- You GET PAID!!!
- Visit private and public research facilities—this gives you the opportunity to ask questions to professionals in the field.
- You will receive valuable transfer information and familiarize yourself with our campus
- Have the opportunity to mingle with other bridges students—we like to have fun!! IT'S NOT ALWAYS WORK!!!
- Tailored workshops intended to contribute to your success!!!!

### **What is undergraduate research and why is it important?**

As an undergraduate researcher you will be active in the process of advancing knowledge and science. Research is continuous—it is always generating new questions and answers. Participating in undergraduate research makes you a more competitive student and opens the doors for graduate and professional schools. Bridges to the Baccalaureate will help you solidify your commitment to pursue research as a career.