



Field Trip 2020 | Cohort XII

Bridge to the Doctorate Program General Information

About Us

The Bridge-to-the-Doctorate Program, an initiative within the LSAMP Program, began in August of 2003.

The two institutional sites that have participated in the BD Program are UPR-Rio Piedras and UPR-Mayaguez.

Each Fellow receives a \$32,000 fellowship per year, for their first two years of graduate studies.

A Support Program includes a series of workshops, seminars, field trips, and the Annual Transdisciplinary Research Conference to enhance the Fellows' academic preparation.

Fellows Benefits

Stipends

Each participant will receive \$1,666.66 at the end of each month for a total of \$20,000

Academic Progress Bonus

Each participant will receive a total of three academic progress bonus of \$4,000 at the end of each semester and summer for a total of \$12,000.

Materials

Each participant has a total of \$2,250 per year for educational research and lab materials. The materials must be for the participant use for his/her coursework and research activities. There are certain items that are not approved as materials, such as: laptops, backpacks, office materials (paper, printer ink, pens, etc). Also, depending on your order there might be items that you will need to justify, if that is the case we will let you know.

Tuition/Fees/Health Insurance and Housing

Each participant has a maximum of \$4,000 per year to cover tuition, fees, health insurance and housing.

Travel Funds

BDP participants has a total of \$3,500 per year to sponsor travel associated with attendance to scientific meetings, workshops, short courses, and similar activities. Each fellow will participate in at least one national or international scientific meeting per year. The second year it is mandatory that the fellow presents his/her research work at a professional scientific meeting.

Fellows Requirements

1. Fellow had initiated graduate studies in a STEM field at the beginning of the grant.
2. Fellow intends to pursue and obtain a PhD degree in a STEM field in a 5-year time period.
3. Fellow will meet each semester all the requirements established by the Graduate School, and the Bridge to the Doctorate Program.
4. Fellow will pass each semester all courses with a grade of B or higher.
5. Fellow will complete 9 credits per semester, for a minimum of 36 credits of graduate work by the end of the fellowship; as such, fellow will not withdraw from any course. Extraordinary circumstances should be discussed with the BDP Academic Coordinator prior to any action.
6. If a Fellow obtains an incomplete in a course, the incomplete should be removed within a six week time period.
7. Fellow will take, if required, and pass the qualifying exams on the date established by the Department.
8. Fellow will submit a thesis proposal on the established deadline.
9. Fellow will be a mentor to an undergraduate PR-LSAMP student.
10. Fellow will submit an action plan at the beginning of each academic semester including summer.
11. Fellow will submit a final report at the end of each academic semester including summer.
12. Fellow will participate in all BDP activities, as established in the program's calendar for each semester, such as:
 - a. Seminars
 - b. Field trips
 - c. Scientific meetings
 - d. Annual NSF PI meeting
 - e. The Puerto Rico Interdisciplinary Scientific Meeting (PRISM), Annual Best Practices Conference, and participate in outreach activities
13. Fellow will serve as role model to high school students, two school visits per academic year.
14. Fellow will apply to the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) on the established deadline.
15. Fellow will complete the required PR-LSAMP annual survey and submit annually an academic transcript for evaluation of academic progress.

For more information contact the PR-LSAMP/BDP Academic Coordinator: Liliana E. Quintana Torres or PR-LSAMP Management Coordinator: Zulma I. Crespo Figueroa at: liliana.quintana1@upr.edu or zulma.crespo@upr.edu, respectively.

Sign up in our website for further opportunities: <https://prlsamp.rcse.upr.edu>

**We expect to have a new Bridge to the Doctorate Cohort
in August 2022!**