

Due by 11 p.m. January 30, 2023

Funded by an NIH R25 Research Education Grant, and under the umbrella of the Center for Transformative Research on Health Behaviors, the Translational Obesity Undergraduate Research Scholars (TOUR-Scholars) Program is a research-intensive summer experience which prepares students for graduate and medical education in translational obesity research.

TOUR-Scholars will be matched with a faculty mentor, working across the obesity translational spectrum. Ten undergraduate students from departments across Virginia Tech, including at least one student from another university or college, will be chosen to participate. Each student will receive a \$5250 stipend.

Dr. Deborah Good, associate professor in HNFE, and Dr. Samantha Harden, associate professor in HNFE, are the program co-directors for the TOUR Scholars. Please contact Dr. Good with any questions about the application (goodd@vt.edu (<mailto:goodd@vt.edu?subject=2022%20TOUR%20Scholar>), 540-231-0430).

To participate in the Translational Obesity Undergraduate Research Scholars program, you will be expected to be in Blacksburg, Virginia for 40 hours a week performing your research project for 10 weeks from Monday May 22nd, 2023 through Friday, July 28, 2023. You will have pre-program modules to complete as well as a "boot camp" immersion week at the start of the program.

During the spring of 2023, you are also expected to complete IACUC, IRB and NIH Research Compliance training, meet with the co-directors, and meet with your research mentor at least once via Zoom or in person.

Participation in the VT Summer Research Orientation Day is required (all day, food provided). Attendance is required for one 90 minute weekly meeting which includes sessions on research-related topics. There will be 2023 TOUR Scholar Applications, 2023.

Due date for applications: January 30th, 2023 (11 p.m. EST).

Please note that this is an NIH-funded program, and **only US Citizens and/or permanent residents can be funded by the NIH grant.** However, if you are a top candidate, we may be able to pursue non-government funding for your internship.

If you would like more general information on campus housing, meal plans, and other details related to summer research programs at Virginia Tech, please contact Dr. Deborah Good: 540-231-0430, goodd@vt.edu (<mailto:goodd@vt.edu>).

* First Name

Middle Name

Last Name

email address

* Zip Code (of permanent mailing address, for geo-tracking purposes only)

* College or university

* First Major

Second Major

Minor

Track

* Expected graduation date (e.g. 05/2023):

Are you a US Citizen or Permanent Resident of the US?

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- YES, US citizen
 - YES, US Permanent Resident
 - NO
-

* Cumulative GPA

Rank the three areas of research in order of your interest

Drag your choices here to rank them

Behavioral & Community Science

Clinical Physiology & Metabolism

Molecular & Cellular Science

Translational Science is ‘the process of turning observations in the laboratory, clinic, and community into interventions that improve the health of individuals and populations – from diagnostics and therapeutics to medical procedures and behavioral.

The spectrum is not linear or unidirectional; each stage builds upon and informs the others." In the TOUR scholars program, we are interested in the field of obesity, body weight regulation, nutrition, exercise and healthy behaviors, and systems science.

Are you already working with someone in the translational obesity field?

- YES
- NO
- I'm doing research but not in the translational obesity field.

Who are you currently working with? If you are not currently doing research, write N/A.

*** List TWO potential mentors, tell us why you would like to work with that mentor.** (1000 character limit)

TOUR Scholars are matched with a TOUR faculty mentor for their research project. Any faculty member at Virginia Tech doing research related to obesity or diabetes is eligible to be a TOUR mentor. If you need a list of faculty who are potentially interested in mentoring a TOUR scholar, visit <https://www.hnfe.vt.edu/TOURS/mentors.html> (<https://www.hnfe.vt.edu/TOURS/mentors.html>).



*** Why are you interested in the TOUR Scholars program?** (1000 character limit)



*** What three strengths can you bring to the TOUR Scholars program?** (1000 character limit)



*** What are your top three areas for improvement that you think the TOUR scholars can help you improve?**
(1000 character limit)



List and explain any recent jobs, academic achievements, and other highlights from your resume. (1000 character limit)



*** Reflect on how your inclusion in the TOUR Scholars program will contribute to a diverse and inclusive student group. (1000 character limit)**

At Virginia Tech, the term diversity is used to describe individual and group/social differences that can be engaged in the service of learning and working together. Inclusion is used to describe the active, intentional, and ongoing engagement with diversity. Everyone has the ability to contribute to diversity. However, according to the NSF, some groups are underrepresented in biomedical research fields. This includes, but is not limited to people with disabilities, those from certain socioeconomic backgrounds, those from some regions in the United States, and other personal and social identity groups. You may be a member of one of these groups or actively working on efforts to improve diversity and inclusion at your institution.



*** Please provide the name, title, and email address for one professional reference. Include a statement of how you know this person and why you picked them to be your professional reference. We may contact them, but they do not need to provide a letter of recommendation at this time.**

