



ÉXITO! FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FAQs will continuously be updated over the course of the application period.

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Éxito! Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training is led by Dr. Amelie Ramirez of the Institute for Health Promotion Research at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, thanks to a National Cancer Institute grant (1R25CA134301-01A2), with support from the Cancer Therapy & Research Center, *Redes En Acción* and the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. Visit us at <http://ihpr.uthscsa.edu/exito.html>.

ÉXITO! PROGRAM - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is *Éxito!* Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training?

A training program for master's-level students and master's-level health professionals consisting of: (1) An annual five-day Summer Institute In San Antonio, Texas and (2) eligibility for paid internships. Find out more at <http://ihpr.uthscsa.edu/exito.html>.

2. What is the purpose of *Éxito!*?

Éxito! aims to encourage Hispanic/Latino master's students and master's-level health professionals to pursue a doctoral degree and a career in Latino cancer health disparities research.

3. So it's for those who know they want to get a doctorate & study cancer?

No, not exclusively! *Éxito!* is designed to introduce individuals to the opportunities in a career in Latino cancer health disparities research. For individuals already interested in pursuing a doctoral degree or a career in cancer research, this program will give them many of the tools they need to take the next step.

Because the *Éxito!* Summer Institute features researchers focused on Latino cancer health disparities, we hope many of our participants will pursue career fields with a focus on cancer health disparities.

4. But I'm really not interested in cancer. Is this still for me?

Yes. Many people think of microscopes and lab coats when they think of cancer research, but virtually any interest one may have in public health is represented in cancer control research. The cancer health disparities research fields include: the study of disease trends and etiology in populations; research on how to change behavior for health promotion, including health communication; environmental epidemiology; health economics; policy research and advocacy; health psychology; and many more public health topics. In particular, there is a great deal of cancer health disparities research that focuses on underserved populations, including how to conduct valid research across cultures and identifying and eliminating disease disparities.

5. What is unique about *Éxito!*?

Éxito! has two main components: an annual Summer Institute in San Antonio, Texas, and paid internships. The five-day Summer Institute features Latino researchers and faculty members who share their research and experiences in the field of health disparities and cancer control research. Participants also receive tools, resources and advice on how to apply, get accepted and complete a doctoral program. The internships give students research experience and allow for an opportunity to improve research skills. Those who complete the Summer Institute are eligible to apply for one of nine paid internships.

6. When was *Éxito!* established?

Éxito! was established in 2010 by the Institute for Health Promotion Research (IHPR) at The UT Health Science Center at San Antonio thanks to funding from the National Cancer Institute (NCI). The program is modeled after a similar training program, the Minority Training Program in Cancer Control Research (MTPCCR) at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). The MTPCCR began in 1999 and continues today.

7. How many people have participated in *Éxito!* so far?

Currently there are 37 *Éxito!* alumni from 2011 and 2012. Eight of our alumni are currently enrolled in doctoral programs and nearly half of our alumni have applied to doctoral programs.

ÉXITO! APPLICATION - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Where can I find the *Éxito!* application?

The *Éxito!* application can be found on our IHPR *Éxito!* website:
<http://ihpr.uthscsa.edu/exito.html>.

2. When is the *Éxito!* application due?

All application material must be received no later than Friday, March 1, 2013.

3. Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible for *Éxito!*, you must be:

- A minority Hispanic/Latino* student in a master's-level health program** or master's-level health professional.
- Be in good academic standing (minimum "B" average).
- Have strong verbal, written, interpersonal, and organizational skills.

** We define "minority Hispanic/Latino" as those communities who are underrepresented and experience an excess or unknown burden in the field of health disparities and cancer control research.*

*** Students must have completed their first semester of a master's program by the start of the Summer Institute (June 2013).*

4. I am not an American Citizen. Am I eligible to apply?

No. Unfortunately, if you are not an American citizen you are not eligible for *Éxito!*.

5. I am currently applying for doctoral programs but have not been accepted. Am I still eligible to apply for *Éxito!*?

Yes. As long as you have not been accepted into a doctoral program at the time of applying, you are eligible to apply. ***Current doctoral students or those already accepted into a doctoral program are ineligible to apply.***

6. My master's degree is not in public health. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes. Master's degrees in other disciplines are accepted. This program is designed for master's-level students or master's-trained professionals interested in pursuing a doctoral degree and career in cancer research.

7. There are two parts to the *Éxito!* application. The *Éxito!* application (PART A) and the *Éxito!* internship (PART B). Do I have to apply for both?

No. The *Éxito!* internship (PART B) is optional. To be considered for the *Éxito!* Summer Institute, the *Éxito!* Application (PART A) must be completed and turned in by Friday, March 1, 2013.

We do encourage all applicants to apply for the *Éxito!* internship. For more information on the *Éxito!* internship, please see the Internship FAQ for interns and the internship FAQs for internship mentors.

8. What if I cannot get two letters of recommendation?

If unable to obtain two letters of recommendation from faculty members or work supervisors, one letter is acceptable if the recommender can comment on the applicants' qualifications for the *Éxito!* Program and the applicants' academic and research potential.

9. When will applicants be notified of acceptance?

Summer Institute participants and internship awardees will be notified in early April 2013.

10. If I am accepted into *Éxito!*, will I be responsible for travel expenses to San Antonio, Texas?

No. If you are accepted into *Éxito!* you will receive free registration, travel, lodging, breakfast and lunch during the five-day Summer Institute in San Antonio, Texas.

Disclaimer: Once the applicant accepted into the *Éxito!* program agrees to attend the Summer Institute and submits the signed contract, travel and lodging arrangements will be made and paid for by the *Éxito!* program. The participant will be held responsible for reimbursing the *Éxito!* program for all associated travel and lodging costs if they do not attend the Summer Institute.

11. What if I cannot attend the five-day Summer Institute in San Antonio, Texas?

The Summer Institute is mandatory for those accepted into the *Éxito!* program. Once the participant agrees to attend the Summer Institute and submits a signed contract, *Éxito!* will make and pay for travel and lodging. The participant will be held responsible for reimbursing *Éxito!* for all associated travel and lodging costs if they do not attend the Summer Institute.

INTERNSHIP FAQ – FOR INTERNS

1. How many internships will be awarded?

Éxito! will support nine internships in 2013.

2. Are the internships competitive?

Yes, *Éxito!* is looking for highly motivated master's-level and/or master's-level health professionals interested in earning a doctoral degree and pursuing a career in Latino cancer health disparities research.

3. Who can apply for an *Éxito!* internship?

Anyone who applies for the *Éxito!* program is eligible to apply for an *Éxito!* internship.

Internships will only be awarded to applicants accepted into the *Éxito!* Program and attend the five-day *Éxito!* Summer Institute in San Antonio, Texas.

4. How does one apply for an internship?

Potential interns must complete Part A and Part B of the *Éxito!* application. All documents must be received by Friday, March 1, 2013.

5. What are the deadlines for applying for an internship?

The internship deadline is the same as the application deadline. All documents must be received by Friday, March 1, 2013.

6. How long is the *Éxito!* internship?

The *Éxito!* internships are six months long; internships will take place between June 2013 and Nov. 1, 2013.

7. When will I be notified if I am accepted for an internship?

Applicants will be notified in early April 2013. Internships will only be awarded to applicants accepted into the *Éxito!* program and who attend and complete the five-day *Éxito!* Summer Institute in San Antonio, Texas.

8. What will I be required to do in an internship?

Potential interns will submit an Internship Work Plan along with their application. Interns will be responsible for completing the work proposed and adhering to the internship roles and responsibilities outlined in PART B of the *Éxito!* application.

9. How many hours must I complete for the *Éxito!* internship?

Interns must complete 360 hours of work between June 2013 and Nov. 1, 2013.

10. Will I receive financial support from *Éxito!* during the internship appointment?

Yes, those selected for an internship will receive a \$5,000 honorarium. Mentors will receive \$1,000. Honorariums will only be awarded provided the intern has successfully completed the 360 hours and adhered to the roles and responsibilities outlined in PART B of the *Éxito!* application.

11. Will travel expenses or internship related cost be reimbursed by *Éxito!*?

Applicants selected to participate in the *Éxito!* Summer Institute will receive travel, lodging, and two meals per day at no expense. Internship related cost will not be reimbursed by the *Éxito!* program. ***Éxito!* will only provide interns with a \$5,000 honorarium at the conclusion of the internship. Mentors will receive a \$1,000 honorarium. Only one mentor will receive an honorarium for the internship.**

12. What if I don't complete the number of hours required for the internship?

You must complete the required number of hours (360) between June 2013 and Nov. 1, 2013. If the internship is not completed, the intern and mentor will not receive their honorarium. In the event of an emergency where the applicant cannot complete the internship, proper documentation will be requested and will be reviewed for partial stipend compensation.

13. Will I need to report any information back to *Éxito!*?

Yes, you will be responsible for submitting electronic monthly progress reports to the *Éxito!* staff. You will also be responsible for completing a pre- and post- internship survey.

INTERNSHIP FAQ – FOR MENTORS

1. What will my responsibilities as an *Éxito!* mentor be?

As a mentor, you will be responsible for:

- Helping your potential intern create an Internship Work Plan.
- Meeting with your potential intern at minimum of once a week to discuss internship progress.
- Providing your intern with opportunities to build upon their research and interpersonal skills.
- Evaluating your intern's performance by completing the Mentor Feedback Survey at the conclusion of the internship.

2. Will I receive an honorarium or stipend for serving as a mentor?

Yes, mentors will receive a \$1,000 honorarium at the conclusion of the internship and after submission of the intern's final report. Honorariums will only be awarded provided the intern has successfully completed the 360 hours and adhered to the roles and responsibilities outlined in PART B of the *Éxito!* application. Only one mentor will receive an honorarium for the internship.

3. Will I be responsible for paying for work conducted by an intern?

No, mentors are not required to pay interns. Interns will receive a \$5,000 honorarium from *Éxito!* at the conclusion of their internship.

4. How long is the internship?

Interns must complete a 360-hour internship between June 2013 and Nov. 1, 2013.