



DOWNSTATE
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY



Cardiovascular Summer Institute

June 14, 2026 - June 26, 2026

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK



National Heart, Lung,
and Blood Institute

FUNDED SINCE 2006

JOIN US IN IMPROVING CARDIOVASCULAR OUTCOMES



HOW TO APPLY

Please submit all materials to: <https://primecc.wustl.edu/>

Rolling Admission; priority consideration granted to early applicants.

For more information visit our homepage at:

<https://www.downstate.edu/education-training/cardiovascular-summer-institute/>

WHERE?

- ❖ The Cardiovascular Summer Institute will convene at State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY.

WHEN?

- ❖ Sunday, June 14, 2026 to Friday, June 26, 2026

WHO?

- ❖ Applicants should be junior faculty at the Assistant Professor level with interest in Cardiovascular Health.
- ❖ Applicant must be either a US citizen or a permanent resident to be eligible for the Institute

WHY?

- ❖ Establish and help Junior faculty become interdependent investigators.

HOW?

- ❖ The Institute brings participants to SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University for a 2-week session during Summer I, a 1-week session during Summer II, and a mid-year session.
- ❖ The mid-year session will occur during the American Heart Association annual conference, usually held in November.
- ❖ The annual program conference, usually in April, will be held at the NHLBI site in Bethesda, MD.

The Summer Institute offers a mix of:

- ❖ Didactic courses
- ❖ Grant writing and grantsmanship sessions conducted by NHLBI staff
- ❖ Specialized seminars, courses, and lab sessions
- ❖ Mentor-mentee partnerships for long-term research collaborations

The Cardiovascular Summer Institute is a research career advancing opportunity at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University that is funded by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI). This mentored research program will address the difficulties experienced by junior investigators (with a terminal degree, e.g., MD, PhD, EdD or equivalent) in establishing independent research programs and negotiating through the academic ranks.

Goals of the Cardiovascular Summer Institute:

- ❖ Enable participants to develop a balanced perspective in determining research priorities
- ❖ Improve their capacity to address cardiovascular health outcomes.
- ❖ Develop the skills and networking necessary to achieve independent research careers in heart, lung, and blood conditions.

Aims of the Institute:

- ❖ Select and train qualified scientists/clinicians who have potential to contribute to the knowledge in cardiovascular health research.
- ❖ Provide long-term tailored one-to-one and peer mentoring with the goal to submit a research grant application
- ❖ Provide intensive individualized training and guidance in grant writing and peer review to enhance the capacity for success in research careers.
- ❖ Provide support for small research projects to facilitate transition to independence.



✓ **Grant Writing Opportunities:** This session will be a one-day seminar presented by members of NHLBI and experienced National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute faculty who served in NIH Study Sections. This will be a unique opportunity for trainees to interact directly with NIH and hear firsthand about what is needed to succeed in obtaining grants from NIH. Specific grant opportunities will be presented with emphasis in the different types of career development awards as offering entry points for new investigators (K awards) and other investigator-initiated programs.

✓ **Mentoring:** Our program facilitates and nurtures mentoring partnerships. We work to improve our mentees' research skills, provide motivation and foster personal growth, provide career guidance, and promote our mentees for scholarships and other development opportunities.

✓ **Introduction to Cardiovascular Health Research:** This seminar will lay the foundation for the mentees' learning experience. Participants will explore key factors that influence health outcomes, including access to medical care, differences in quality of care, biological predispositions, behavioral risk factors, and more. Each topic will be illustrated through specific examples related to the heart, blood, and lungs. Trainees will also be expected to engage deeply with the growing body of literature in these areas.

✓ **Research Design, Methods, and Analysis:** This seminar series will be given early in the program to provide a solid introduction so that the mentees will be able to formulate their research ideas throughout the course of the Institute. It will include presentation on research design and methods in clinical, behavioral, and basic research and analysis.

✓ **Community-Based Participatory Research:** This will be a hands-on seminar presented by the Arthur Ashe Institute of Urban Health in which trainees will spend the afternoon working with this community organization in an ongoing research project that is part of the Brooklyn Health Promotion Center. They will meet with community members to learn about how to integrate community participants into the research plan from its inception through its completion and to consider how the community benefits from the research process. The trainees will be able to experience how cultural competency affects the conduct of community-based research.

✓ **Responsible Conduct of Research:** Mentees will receive materials on this topic to be discussed at the seminar. Topics will include authorship, quality control, data security, privacy of data from human subjects, ethical treatment of humans and animals in research, informed consent, and other issues relevant to ethics in conducting research. The seminar will include discussions about cases of fraud and misconduct to illustrate various points.

Institute Director

- ❖ Mohamed Boutjdir, PhD, FAHA: Director of Cardiovascular Summer Institute, Professor of Medicine, Cell Biology, and Pharmacology, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University; Director, Cardiovascular Research Program, VA New York Harbor Healthcare System, New York, NY

Faculty and Mentors

- ❖ Faraz S. Ahmad, MD, MS: Associate Director of the Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute Center for Artificial Intelligence at Northwestern Medicine.
- ❖ Carla Boutin-Foster, MD: Associate Dean, Office of Diversity Education and Research, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY
- ❖ Mohamed Chahine, PhD: Professor, Department of Medicine, Laval University, Quebec, Canada
- ❖ Wendy Chung, MD, PhD: Director of the Clinical Genetics Program, Herbert Irving Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine at Columbia University, New York, NY
- ❖ Keith Ferdinand, MD, FACC, FAHA: Professor of Medicine, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
- ❖ Marilyn Fraser, MD: CEO of the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health, Brooklyn, NY
- ❖ James R Gavin III, MD, PhD: Clinical Professor of Medicine and Senior Health Advisor on Health Affairs, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA; Trustee Emeritus, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- ❖ Mahmood Hussain, PhD: Director, Basic Science Research & Diabetes & Obesity Research Center, Winthrop University Hospital, Mineola, NY
- ❖ Jared Jobe, PhD: Program Director Emeritus, National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute, Bethesda, MD
- ❖ Michael A. Joseph, PhD, MPH: Vice Dean for Education, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY
- ❖ Cheryl Kunis, MD: Clinical Professor of Medicine, Columbia University, New York, NY
- ❖ Kitaw Demissie, MD, PhD: Dean and Distinguished Service Professor, School of Public Health; SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY

- ❖ Jason Lazar, MD, MPH, FACC, FACP: Professor of Medicine, Neurology, Public Health, Molecular & Cell Biology; Director, Non-Invasive Cardiology; SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY
- ❖ Samy McFarlane, MD, MPH: Ombudsman, Professor of Medicine and Director of the Fellowship Program in Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY
- ❖ Susana Morales, MD: Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Director of the Center for Multicultural and Minority Health, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, NY
- ❖ Latha Palaniappan, MD, MS: Faculty Co-Director of the Stanford Biobank, Palo Alto, CA
- ❖ Larry Petcovic, MS: Co-Founder, VP of Communications, SciPhD, Bethesda, MD
- ❖ Yongxia Sarah Qu, MD, PhD: Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine at SUNY Downstate Health Science University, Brooklyn, NY and Department of Cardiology, New York Presbyterian Brooklyn Methodist Hospital
- ❖ Carlos J. Rodriguez, MD, MPH: Professor, Department of Medicine (Cardiology), Professor, Department of Epidemiology & Population Health (Epidemiology), Albert Einstein College of Medicine
- ❖ Moro Salifu, MD, MBA, MPH, FACP: Chair of the Department of Medicine, Chief of the Division of Nephrology and Director of the Kidney Transplant Program; Director, Brooklyn Health Promotion Center, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY
- ❖ Aimee Afable-Munsuz, PhD, MPH: Assistant Professor of Community Health Sciences, SUNY Downstate School of Public Health, Brooklyn, NY
- ❖ Tracey Wilson, PhD, Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs and Research, Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences, SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, Brooklyn, NY
- ❖ Clyde Yancy, MD, MSc, FACC, FAHA, MACP: Magerstadt Professor of Medicine, Chief, Division of Cardiology, Northwestern University, Feinberg School of Medicine, Chicago, IL

For additional information on the program, please contact:

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