**Research Assistantships for Minority Students (RAMS) Program @ CMU**

**Application for Summer 2016**

**Description:**

Position Title: Research Assistant

Program Coordinator: Anna Fisher

Faculty Mentors: D. Creswell, K. Creswell, A. Fisher, V. Helgeson, D. Rakison, E. Thiessen

Contact Information: Anna Fisher, [fisher49@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:fisher49@andrew.cmu.edu)

**Send completed applications to:**RAMS - Research Assistantships for Minority Students  
c/o Anna Fisher  
335-I Baker Hall  
Carnegie Mellon University  
5000 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

**Research Assistantships for Minority Students (RAMS) Program Description**

The Department of Psychology at Carnegie Mellon University is pleased to announce an exciting summer research opportunity for undergraduate students. This program, funded by the American Psychological Association and Carnegie Mellon University, is designed to provide research opportunities to members of underrepresented groups as defined by the Institute for Education Sciences (African American, Hispanic, Native American) who may be considering pursuing further graduate study in psychology or related fields. We encourage applications from students who would like to conduct research in the areas of Developmental Psychology and/or Health Psychology.

RAMS program makes it possible for undergraduate students with little to no research experience to spend 6 weeks during the summer in a research laboratory at Carnegie Mellon University. This program supports our commitment to training a diverse set of leaders in the field of psychology and related disciplines.

Applications are encouraged from students who wish to learn to conduct research in a modern academic research laboratory under the guidance of experienced scientists. The RAMS program will expose students to the excitement and opportunities of a research career. This experience will provide excellent preparation for students interested in subsequently pursuing Masters or Ph.D. degrees in psychology, education, learning science, human-computer interaction, and related areas of scientific inquiry.

Each student will receive a fellowship stipend of $2,700 for the six-week RAMS program. Apartment-style housing will also be provided. Students will conduct research in an area matched to the interests expressed in the student's application. Guidance and supervision of the research project will be provided by the faculty members listed above as well as postdoctoral fellows and/or advanced graduate students.

Additionally, admitted students will participate in the *Go Research!* Summer Program at CMU. This program brings together undergraduate researchers from across departments. Students live in dorms with resident assistants to facilitate community building, manage housing, and provide programming. A Summer Seminar Series is provided for all students to help prepare for graduate education and research careers.

**RAMS Program Benefits**

There are several benefits that the participating students may receive.

* Research experience obtained at CMU, one of the premier research universities in the country, will help students be better prepared to apply for admission for graduate study, whether students choose to apply to CMU or a different university.
* If the quality of the research is high, the faculty member who advised the student would likely be willing to write a letter of recommendation for the student which could be included in a graduate school application.
* Students will benefit from the university-wide *Go Research!* program that helps students prepare competitive applications for graduate study and build peer networks.

*RAMS Program Dates:* Students will work as Research Assistants for 6 weeks between June 12, 2016 and July 22, 2016.

*Application Deadline*: Deadline for applications is March 7, 2016. Students will be informed of our decision by March 28, 2016.

*Minimum Requirements*: Applicants must be undergraduate students who are currently enrolled at a U.S. institution. Applicants should have a minimum of 3.5 GPA out of 4.0 although we will consider students who show by other measures that they are strong candidates and who have GPAs over 3.2. Class standing and grades in specific subjects that are close to the field of research will also be considered as well as recommendation letters.

*Number of slots/ positions available*: RAMS Program can accommodate up to four students for the Summer 2016.

*Funding Source*: American Psychological Association and Carnegie Mellon University Department of Psychology.

Application for PIER Summer Research Experience for Undergraduates at CMU

1. Name:
2. Permanent address:
3. Current address:
4. Email:
5. Phone:
6. University where you are a student:
7. Major:
8. This year, are you a:

\_\_\_ Freshman

\_\_\_ Sophomore

\_\_\_ Junior

\_\_\_ Senior

\_\_\_ Other (explain) :\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Latest SAT or ACT scores

SAT

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Reading

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Math

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Writing

ACT

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ English

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Math

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Reading

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Science

1. Present GPA:
2. Are you a US citizen?

\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_ No If not, what is your visa status for summer 2016? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Gender (optional)

\_\_\_ Male

\_\_\_ Female

\_\_\_ Prefer not to say

1. My ethnicity is (optional):

*Check all that apply*

\_\_\_ African American

\_\_\_ Asian Pacific Islander

\_\_\_ Native American/Alaskan

\_\_\_ Hispanic

\_\_\_ White

\_\_\_ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Prefer not to say

1. Please include the following:

* official transcript
* an unofficial copy or your latest SAT or ACT score report
* two letters of recommendation (at least one from someone you have taken a course from at your university)
* resume
* Statement: Please answer the following:
  + Why would you like to learn how to conduct research at the RAMS Program this summer and how would this experience help you achieve your professional goals?
  + Of the six faculty mentors for Summer 2016, please select up to 3 possible mentors whose program of research best fits your research interests:

\_\_\_ D. Creswell <http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/psychology/people/core-training-faculty/creswell-david.html>

\_\_\_ K. Creswell <http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/psychology/people/core-training-faculty/creswell-kasey.html>

\_\_\_ V. Helgeson <http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/psychology/people/core-training-faculty/helgeson-vicki.html>

\_\_\_ A. Fisher <http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/psychology/people/core-training-faculty/fisher-anna.html>

\_\_\_ D. Rakison <http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/psychology/people/core-training-faculty/rakison-david.html>

\_\_\_ E. Thiessen <http://www.cmu.edu/dietrich/psychology/people/core-training-faculty/thiessen-erik.html>

Please sign this application and send it back to us along with the application materials listed above.

This application indicates that I am committed, in the case that I am admitted to the RAMS Program @ CMU, to being present for 6 weeks between June 12, 2016 and July 22, 2016.

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[your signature and printed name]

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