

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Does the CEESP student lose contact with her/his professors at the home institution?

No, the student can include a local professor at the home university the research proposal. Student applicants are expected to have an endorsement from one or more of his/her local professors.

2. Does CEESP maintain research sites?

Yes, CEESP maintains strong research sites and off-campus mentorship in several countries in Africa and the Middle East. CEESP also placed students in Latin America and Asia where strong research infrastructure and mentorship exists. CEESP has also research sites for domestic research in different states and special populations in the U.S.

3. Can students apply to CEESP if their home institution does not have global or domestic research sites?

Yes, CEESP will connect students to the network of global and domestic off-campus mentors developed by the program in the past 12 years.

4. How do students usually select the country or domestic research site?

Students may have prior experience in a country or site and would like to return back and continue research in the same site. Some students work in the research sites of their local university professor. Many students utilize the existing CEESP research sites that previous students utilized in the past 12 years.

5. Has CEESP included students who conducted international project without prior global experience or international travel?

Yes, many CEESP students who had no prior international experience conducted successful international research through CEESP.

6. How can students come up with the idea for the research mini-proposal?

Students can work with their local mentor or with Dr. Soliman and the local CEESP mentors to come up with the research idea and get guidance on developing the research proposal.

7. Is speaking a local language of the foreign country is a requirement for applying to CEESP?

No, English is the main research and medical language in most research sites. Speaking Spanish is necessary for Latin America. Speaking the local language of a country or a special population in the U.S. is a plus. CEESP provide tapes and books for learning foreign languages.

8. Do CEESP summer students enroll in CUNY?

No, students maintain their enrollment in their home institutions.

9. Do selected students need to take special courses after they are selected in January?

No, students will be provided with recorded cancer epidemiology and cancer prevention courses taught by Drs. Soliman and Chamberlain to study on their own.

10. Does the CEESP summer experience interfere with the student practicum or summer internship plan of the student home institution?

No, CEESP ensures that students fulfill the practicum/summer internship requirements of the home institutions for students to graduate on time.

11. Does CEESP provide funding for travel and accommodation if students conduct global or domestic special population research?

Yes, the full subsistence is provided if students work full time on the project for 15 weeks.

12. Can CEESP students work on joint research projects?

Yes, sometimes 2 or 3 students work on related projects in the same location.

13. What documents are needed for application?

Students need to submit the completed application form, a mini (one page) research proposal, unofficial transcripts of undergraduate and most recent semester in school, and a powerpoint file for presentation to the CEESP Advisory committee during our selection meeting in January.

14. What happens after students are selected in January?

Students are connected with the off-campus mentors to finalize the details of the research project, submit and obtain the local and off-campus IRB approvals, and prepare for obtaining the visa, vaccinations, and international tickets, if they will conduct an international project.

15. Do CEESP students get field mentorship from the leaders of CEESP?

Yes, Dr. Soliman and Dr. Chamberlain travel with the students during the summer to ensure that students' research is on track and solve any problems that may arise.

16. Can the local off-campus mentors help with finding reasonably-price and safe housing in the foreign country for students conducting global research.

Yes.

17. Can students have a vacation in the country where they conduct their CEESP research?

Yes, many students have vacations in the country of research but this only allowed before or after the 15-week research period and is not funded by CEESP.

18. What is the rate of acceptance into the CEESP summer program?

Usually the number of applicants is about 45, and 15 are selected.

19. Who funds the CEESP Program?

The National Cancer Institute (part of NIH) provides grant funding to CUNY to support student stipends, expenses, and other costs. This grant has been active for the past 13 years.