

Jump Start Research Program

Jump Start is a paid summer research program designed to provide foundational research training for students who are early in their exposure to research and interested in pursuing long-term careers in research.

OHSU Casey Eye Institute offers the Jump Start program to scholars who are interested in pursuing graduate education and research-focused careers and who have had limited access to formal research opportunities. This program emphasizes structured mentorship and hands-on training to support participants as they build skills needed for success in research environments.

Applicants may include students with minimal prior research experience, those attending institutions with limited research infrastructure, or those facing educational, financial, or structural barriers to pursuing research pathways.

The program includes a stipend for eight consecutive weeks from mid-June through mid-August. It is considered a full-time position, with 40 hours per week divided between laboratory research (30 hours) and structured training and professional development activities (10 hours).

How to apply

The application deadline is February 27, 2026. Your application should include your resume and a personal statement that answers the following questions:

- Describe your prior access to research opportunities. What types of research experiences have you had, and what factors limited or shaped your ability to pursue additional research opportunities?
- Describe one or more barriers—educational, financial, institutional, or personal—that have influenced your path toward a research career. How have these experiences shaped your goals?
- How do you envision research fitting into your long-term career goals?

Please send questions and application materials (resume and personal statement) to Mary Kelley, Ph.D. (kelleyma@ohsu.edu) with a copy to Kate Stout (stoutk@ohsu.edu).



Jump Start is designed for post-baccalaureate scholars to gain the research experience and professional skills needed for acceptance to graduate school and to thrive in a professional research career.