

Professional Development Opportunities for Grad Students

Start thinking about where you are headed NOW!

Graduate Program and multiple organizations at Duke offer one-on-one and group career activities that are open to all biomedical graduate students. The major activities are listed below.

Every graduate student is required to have an Individual Development Plan (IDP) by the 3rd year, but it is a good idea to start early.

This provides an annual inventory of skills and interests that can guide your career interests.

One form is available at: <http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/>

1. Graduate School

<https://gradschool.duke.edu/professional-development>

Our Professional Development Opportunities

Bass Instructional Fellowship Program: This program provides endowed fellowships for graduate students to gain high-quality teaching experience as instructors of record, instructional teaching assistants, and online apprentices.

Certificate in College Teaching: This program prepares PhD students to teach in a university setting and provides formal documentation upon completion, which helps make the students more competitive when applying for faculty positions.

Emerging Leaders Institute: This program—open to Graduate School students and postdocs—helps participants develop their competencies in communication, self-awareness, professional adaptability, interdisciplinary teamwork, and leadership, leading to a certificate of completion. Offered in the spring semester only.

Preparing Future Faculty: This yearlong program provides graduate students and postdocs with workshops and mentors to prepare them for the multiple roles they may have to play as faculty members at a variety of academic institutions.

Professional Development Series: This event series includes talks, workshops, and events that can help students identify and develop transferable skills to prepare them for careers in academia, industry, government, nonprofit, and entrepreneurship.

Responsible Conduct of Research: Responsible Conduct of Research training is a formal requirement for every master's and Ph.D. student enrolled in The Graduate School. All master's students are required to complete four hours of RCR training during their orientation. All PhD students are required to complete 12 or 18 hours of RCR training in their first four years of study, depending on their discipline.

Teaching IDEAS Series: This annual workshop series is open to graduate students, postdocs, faculty, and staff. Speakers address topics relevant to classroom teaching, dealing with students, or faculty life and career paths.

2. Duke Career Center

<https://studentaffairs.duke.edu/graduate-professional-students>

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They provide drop-in advising, career counseling, co-sponsorship of career development events with the Graduate School and have an online resource library. Guides on resumes, CV, academic career prep, cover letter, informational interviewing internships interviewing, job and career research LibGuide, networking, on-campus recruiting.

3. Office of Biomedical Graduate Education

<https://medschool.duke.edu/education/degree-programs-and-admissions/office-biomedical-graduate-education>

Provides a clearing house for professional development opportunities available across programs for biomedical graduate students. They will provide a Career Development Workshop in conjunction with the 3rd year RCR update.

4. Office of Biomedical Graduate Student Diversity

<https://medschool.duke.edu/about-us/diversity-and-inclusion/office-biomedical-graduate-diversity>

This office sponsors an array of professional development opportunities that are open to all graduate students in the biomedical sciences. These include social events, mentoring, professional development and academic seminars. There are student-organized groups that include a preliminary qualifying exam preparatory group, a dissertation preparatory group, partnership with Duke Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS).

5. Duke BioCore

<https://biocore.duke.edu/>

All incoming PhD students in bioscience departments and programs are invited to apply. Scholars will be appointed based on the fit of the applicants to the program goals and slot availability. BioCoRE will provide enhanced opportunities that complement the bioscience graduate programs for Graduate BioCoRE Scholars and multiple career engagement and social activities. One major goal of BioCoRE is to increase the diversity of scientists in the biosciences, and another is to promote student development with research experiences, engagement with faculty, and career development activities. Any student seeking to be a part of the BioCoRE community should be committed to these goals. Applications will be considered on a rolling basis.