

ÉXITO!
LATINO CANCER RESEARCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING
(LCRLT)

Information and Application Packet

Application Deadline:
Must Be Postmarked or Hand-delivered NO LATER THAN Wednesday, April 13, 2011

(We recommend requesting reference letters well in advance of the deadline)



Éxito! Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training (LCRLT) is led by Dr. Amelie Ramirez of the Institute for Health Promotion Research at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, thanks to a National Cancer Institute grant (1R25CA134301-01A2), with support from the Cancer Therapy & Research Center, *Redes En Acción* and the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Visit us at <http://ihpr.uthscsa.edu/exito.html>

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Institute for Health Promotion Research
The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
Attn: *Éxito!* LCRLT Team
8207 Callaghan Road, Suite 353
San Antonio, Texas 78230

For more information, contact *Éxito!* LCRLT staff members:

Sandra San Miguel de Majors
Office: (210) 562-6500
Email: sanmiguels@uthscsa.edu

Cynthia Wittenburg
Office: (956) 365-8662 * Cell (210) 262-9185
Email: Wittenburg@uthscsa.edu

Éxito! LATINO CANCER RESEARCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Cancer control research is a multi-disciplinary field that combines basic and applied studies in behavioral, social and population health sciences. The aims of this research are to reduce cancer risk, incidence, morbidity and mortality, and particularly the disproportionate burden of cancer health disparities borne by low-income, ethnically diverse communities.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

There is considerable diversity among master's level student populations training in health at many academic institutions. However, only a small proportion of Latino students go on to pursue doctoral degrees, resulting in a national shortage of experienced minority investigators in cancer prevention and control.

The purpose of **Éxito! Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training (LCRLT)** is to increase diversity in the field of Latino health disparity research and cancer control by encouraging Latino students in master's level health programs, as well as master's trained health professionals, to pursue a doctoral degree and a career in research. However, applicants need not have plans to pursue doctoral training prior to applying to program.

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This program is designed to enhance participants':

- ❖ Understanding of the power of research to affect change
- ❖ Awareness of the strengths and limitations of current research methods, theory and interventions in eliminating health disparities
- ❖ Interest in cancer control research, from surveillance to epidemiology, individual behavior change, health services, and policy research
- ❖ Skills in research, networking, and information seeking, and motivation and ability to successfully apply to a doctoral program.

Éxito! LCRLT consists of four components:

1. Summer Institute: "Careers in Latino Cancer Control Research"

A five-day Summer Institute designed to showcase the opportunities and need for Latino researchers in cancer control. Through the Institute, 20 participants will acquire the motivation, skills, and resources needed to apply to a doctoral program. Participating faculty include role models and leaders in research from around the country. **Attendance at the entire five-day program is required.**

2. Student Internships (Starting in 2012)

Master's students and graduates who participate in the Summer Institute can apply for paid internships (maximum 360 hours) starting in 2012. Qualified interns will be matched to a program and mentor based on their academic focus and personal interests. Note: The internship does not provide funds for transportation and housing. Internships are not guaranteed until a mentor-intern match is made.

3. Doctoral Application Support Awards (DASA) (Starting in 2012)

Éxito! LCRLT alumni (persons who have completed any *Éxito!* LCRLT Summer Institute) who wish to pursue a doctorate in a field that could lead to a career in Latino health disparities or cancer control research are eligible to apply for awards up to \$2,000 to cover the cost of doctoral program applications, testing and/or campus visits. Deadline for DASA application submission is annually in December.

4. Doctoral Biannual Retreats (Starting in 2014)

Éxito! LCRLT alumni who are current doctoral students can partake in retreats, starting in 2014, which provide in-person counseling as needed, enable students to share challenges and success strategies with one another, and build and solidify the *Éxito!* network of doctoral students and faculty.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligibility is based on the following criteria:

- ❖ Minority Hispanic/Latino* student in a master's level health program** or master's trained health professional. Current doctoral students or those already accepted into doctoral programs are *ineligible* to apply.
- ❖ Good academic standing (minimum "B" average).
- ❖ Strong verbal, written, interpersonal, and organizational skills.

* *We define "minority Hispanic/Latino" as those communities who are underrepresented and experience an excess or unknown burden in the field of health disparities and cancer control research.*

** *Students must have completed 1st year of master's program by the start of the Summer Institute.*

TIMELINE

April 13, 2011	Applications due
April-May 2011	Class of 2011 selection process
April-May 2011	Applicants are informed of application status
June 2-6, 2011	Summer Institute (<i>Éxito!</i> LCRLT): "Careers in Latino Cancer Control Research"

LEADERSHIP

Éxito! is directed by Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez, who also directs the IHPR at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Other IHPR researchers involved are IHPR Deputy Director Mr. Kip Gallion, Mrs. Cynthia Wittenburg, and Mrs. Sandra San Miguel de Majors. Dr. Rena Pasick, director of the Minority Training Program in Cancer Control Research (MTPCCR) at the UCSF Helen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, is a co-principal investigator. A team of faculty and student advisors from participating academic institutions are actively involved in all phases of planning and implementation.

COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS

The collaborating institutions are a network of affiliated schools where campus advisors conduct outreach and recruitment on behalf of *Éxito!* LCRLT.

TEXAS

- Texas A&M HSC, SRPH
- U of North Texas HSC
- U of Houston, Dept. of Hlth & HP
- Texas Tech UHSC, F. Marie Hall Institute for Rural & Community Hlth
- UTPA, STBHDC
- UT Austin, HE & Kinesiology
- UTHSCSA
- UTSPH Austin
- UTSPH El Paso
- UTSPH San Antonio
- UTSPH Brownsville
- UTEP CHS
- UTSA, CoE HD

NEW MEXICO

University of New Mexico (UNM)
Department of HE & Sprts. Scnc, COE

ARIZONA

University of Arizona (U of A)
Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health

For additional information on academic faculty or student contacts, please refer to the *Éxito!* Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training (LCRLT) Coordinator or Web site at <http://ihpr.uthscsa.edu/exito.html> (UTHSCSA).

SUMMER INSTITUTE TENTATIVE AGENDA (*Subject to Change*)

Day 1: *What's Going On In Latino Health Disparities including Cancer Control Research & Why We Are Here?*

- Me and My Culture
- Latino Health Disparities including Cancer Control Research in Diverse Communities
- Building A Career in Health Disparities or Cancer Control Research
- Biology of various Health Disparities common among Latino Populations, including Cancer

Day 2: *Population-Based Research in Action: What Difference Does Having a Doctorate Make?*

- It All Starts Here: Finding Out Who Gets Cancer and Other Common Health Disparities and Why
- Research on Cancer Trends & Health Disparities
- Affecting Change to Reduce the Disproportionate and Unnecessary Latino Health Crisis: Community Intervention Research
- Cancer Survivorship: What is it Like to Have Cancer?

Day 3: *The Challenge to the Insider Researcher – Tools of the Trade: Why Culture Matters*

- Navigating a Diverse Society for Cancer Control and other Latino Health Disparities
- Accessing Culture Through Qualitative Research
- Qualitative and Quantitative Research Design: Pulling It All Together

Day 4: *How to Apply: Hear from the Experts*

- Putting On My Researcher Hat
- NCI Resources: Doctoral Level and Beyond
- Forum with University Representatives
- Getting In & Getting Through a Doctoral Program: Doctoral Students Panel

Day 5: *Stepping Out: Transition from Student to Researcher*

- Show Me the Money: How to Fund a Doctoral Program
- Ethnic Identity Politics
- Emotional Competence
- Graduation Lunch

FUNDING

Participants receive free registration, travel, lodging and meals during Summer Institute sessions. If you have further questions, please contact *Éxito!* program staff members.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST

Before mailing, please verify application materials against the checklist and **ensure that your name is placed on all documents** submitted. Also, please do not staple the documents together. An application cannot be evaluated unless ALL the necessary documents below are received. In order to be eligible for selection, all application materials **must be postmarked or hand-delivered NO LATER THAN APRIL 13, 2011**. Faxed/mailed applications will not be accepted.

- 1. *Éxito!* Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training (LCRLT) Summer Institute Application.
*Faxed/mailed applications **are not** accepted.*
- 2. Personal Statement
- 3. Two Letters of Recommendation
- 4. Verification of GPA (Unofficial transcript is accepted)
 - *Include a copy of current/final school transcript or letter from registrar's office with your application*
 - *If you have less than one year of coursework in a master's program, please provide your undergraduate transcript in addition to your current transcript*
- 5. Resume or Curriculum Vitae

**Éxito! Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training
APPLICATION**

Please type or print clearly

NOTE: Must be postmarked or hand-delivered NO LATER THAN Wednesday, April 13, 2011. Please be advised that many mail services do not guarantee delivery. It is your responsibility to check with specific carriers about their policies to ensure proper and timely delivery. **Faxed or emailed applications are not accepted.**

Statement of Confidentiality: The information requested in this application is for the purpose of determining the applicant's eligibility for Éxito! Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training. Information received is kept confidential.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>
Name:		
Mailing Address:		
Permanent Address (if different from above):		
Daytime Telephone: ()	Evening Telephone: ()	
E-mail Address:		
Social Security Number:		
Date of Birth:		
Citizenship:	U.S. Citizen	U.S. Permanent Resident
		Other (specify)
Gender:	Female	Male

Are you Hispanic or Latino? Yes No
Racial/Ethnic Background: (Please circle/check all that apply)
Black / African heritage (please specify: _____)
American Indian / Alaska Native (please specify: _____)
Asian (please specify: _____)
Hispanic / Latino (please specify: _____)
Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander (please specify: _____)
White (please specify: _____)
More than one race (please specify: _____)
Other (please specify: _____)

EDUCATION INFORMATION

Please circle one: I am a <input type="checkbox"/> Current master's student <input type="checkbox"/> Master's trained professional/graduate		
Name of Current or Previous School:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Faculty Advisor Name:	Phone Number: ()	
Graduate degree and program:		
Projected/Actual Graduation Date (MM/YYYY):	Current/Final GPA:	
Anticipated # of units completed by June, 2011 (<i>current students only</i>):		

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please provide letters of recommendation from two faculty members, stating their support for the student as a qualified candidate for the *Éxito!* Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training (see Recommendation Form). If unable to obtain both letters from faculty, one letter may be from an individual who can comment on applicant's academic potential. List names, addresses and telephone numbers below and enclose two letters of recommendation.

Recommender: 1

Name:	Position/ Title:
Address:	
Phone Number: ()	

Recommender: 2

Name:	Position/ Title:
Address:	
Phone Number: ()	

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT *ÉXITO!* LCRLT?

Circle all that apply:	Acquaintance/friend/family member APHA Co-worker Flyer PowerPoint Presentation (please specify when/where: _____) Graduate faculty/student representative (please specify: _____) Internet/Web site/email (please specify: _____) <i>Éxito!</i> staff (please specify: _____) MTPCCR alumni (please specify: _____) MTPCCR staff (please specify: _____) Newsletter/newspaper/bulletin (please specify: _____) Other (please specify: _____)
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PERSONAL STATEMENT

In an essay of 300-500 words below or on an attached sheet of paper, please address the following:

- ◆ Discuss academic experience and career goals, including possible cancer control research interest(s).
- ◆ Describe motivation for applying to *Éxito!* LCRLT stating your goals and expectations.

Please note: The personal statements of all program participants will be critiqued by a writing specialist and handed back at the Summer Institute as a resource for future applications.

SIGNATURE OF FACULTY ADVISOR

As faculty advisor to the applicant, I certify that the candidate is a current student or a recent graduate of a master's degree health program. I endorse the applicant as a qualified candidate for the *Éxito!* Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training (**For graduates only:** *Please submit a copy of Master's degree in lieu of faculty signature*).

print/type name

signature

date

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

By signing below, I certify that I am eligible to apply to the *Éxito!* Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training. To the best of my knowledge, the information I have provided in this application is complete and accurate.

print/type name

signature

date

Please note any questions or comments in the space below:

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**Éxito! Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training
APPLICATION**

RECOMMENDATION FORM

Please type or print clearly

The individual submitting this form is applying for the *Éxito!* Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training, a program designed to showcase the opportunities and needs for Hispanic/Latino researchers in Latino health disparities and Cancer Control Research, and to provide motivation, skills and resources to enable master's students and master's trained professionals to pursue doctoral level education.

Please provide an assessment of the applicant by completing this form. **In order for an application to be reviewed, the recommendation form must be postmarked or hand-delivered NO LATER THAN April 13, 2011. Program selection is determined by applicant information and recommendations.** (*Faxed/emailed recommendations are NOT accepted*)

<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>
Applicant's Name:		

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the applicant may waive his/her right to inspect the recommendation by signing the statement below. This waiver is not required as a condition for selection to the Minority Training Program in Cancer Control Research.

"I hereby waive my right of access to this information and release UTHSCSA to contact this recommender with regard to my application for the Éxito! Latino Cancer Research Leadership Training."

<i>Print/type applicant's name</i>	<i>applicant's signature</i>	<i>date</i>
------------------------------------	------------------------------	-------------

<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>
Recommender's Name:		
Credentials:	Position/Title:	
Institution:		
Address:		
Telephone: ()	Fax: ()	
E-mail Address:		

Part A Please evaluate the applicant using the following criteria and scale.
On a scale of 1 to 5: 1 = poor, 5 = exceptional.

	Unable to Evaluate 0	Poor 1	2	Average 3	4	Exceptional 5
1. Has vision: <i>open to new ideas and possibilities</i>						
2. Is motivated to advance as far as possible						
3. Is organized: <i>in thinking and methodology</i>						
4. Manages competing priorities						
5. Works well under pressure						
6. Is a respected member of peer groups						
7. Works well with diverse groups of people						
8. Assumes initiative						
9. Assumes responsibility						
10. Writes and speaks effectively						
11. Has potential to attain a doctoral degree						

Part B

In the space below or in an attached letter, describe the nature of your relationship to the applicant. Evaluate the applicant's academic aptitude and potential for a career in cancer control research; potential motivation for the pursuit of a doctorate; and present academic performance in his/her area of concentration. Provide an example that illustrates the applicant's skills and potential commitment to applying to a doctoral program in a field related to Latino health disparities including cancer control research. Also, what would you describe as the main barrier for this applicant to successfully apply to a doctoral program? What are the applicant's personal and/or academic strengths and weaknesses? *(If responding on a separate paper, place the applicant's name in the upper right hand corner. Please limit responses to 300-500 words).*

SIGNATURE OF RECOMMENDER

By signing below, I certify that the information I have given regarding the applicant is complete and accurate

print/type name and title

signature

date

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<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>
Recommender's Name:		
Credentials:		Position/Title:
Institution:		
Address:		
Telephone: ()		Fax: ()
E-mail Address:		

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