



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT — GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE AFFAIRS
AND VICE PROVOST — EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, California 94607-5200

December 8, 2025

Dear Colleagues,

The Office of the President is pleased to announce the **2025–26 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the UC-HBCU Initiative**. This systemwide faculty grants program reflects the University of California's recognition of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and their critical contributions to higher education, research and public service. The initiative supports faculty partnerships between UC and HBCUs, with grants that enable HBCU students to conduct summer research with faculty at a UC campus. Through this program, UC strengthens pathways for talented HBCU scholars to pursue Ph.D. programs at UC campuses and advances the university's commitment to inclusive excellence. Please see the RFP for more information.

Since 2012, UC has hosted more than 1,000 HBCU scholars across its ten campuses. As a direct result of this initiative, 75 HBCU scholars are currently enrolled in UC Ph.D. programs and 54 have already earned their doctoral degrees. Of these graduates, eleven have secured tenure-track positions in the professoriate, including six at California institutions — three of whom are at a UC. These alumni also hold faculty positions within the CSU and CCC systems, and at a private California research university, three out-of-state public research institution and two private HBCUs. Others are doing consequential work in industry, at [Apple](#), [ARUP](#), [Boston Consulting Group](#) and [Daichi Sankyo](#), as well as in foundations and nonprofits focused on leadership development, sustainability and marine science.

As you know, building relationships and cultivating greater engagement between the UC and HBCU communities is a long-term investment in academic excellence. Please share the information below and encourage faculty members to apply. If your department, office or program has ways of supporting or inspiring faculty participation, please consider suggesting this program. Thank you for your continued collaboration and support on behalf of the UC-HBCU Initiative.

RFP	Application Instructions and Forms	Additional Resources
2025–26 UC-HBCU Initiative — Call for Proposals (pdf)	2025–26 UC-HBCU Initiative — Application Instructions — Summer Research Internship Grant	Information on HBCUs, including links to lists and contact information
	2025–26 UC-HBCU Initiative — Application Instructions — Summer Research and Graduate Admissions Pathways Grant	UC-HBCU Applicant Information Tutorial
		Frequently Asked Questions (pdf)

Sincerely,

Yvette Gullatt
Vice President for Graduate and Undergraduate Affairs
Vice Provost for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion