**Application Statements**

**Description**: Our overall mission is to enhance the diversity of the health-related research workforce by increasing the interests, skills, and competitiveness of undergraduate students to pursue research-focused higher degree programs (e.g., Ph.D. or M.D./Ph.D.). We aim to create engaging and supportive spaces where students can safely represent their different backgrounds and perspectives and apply their unique viewpoint to support their community through research.

**Instructions**: Use these statements to share who you are with the review committee! The online platform, InfoReady, will ask that you type in your answers as part of your application. Utilize this form to prepare your written statements ahead of time so you can copy and paste them into InfoReady. The application will require you to answer each of the prompts below:

1. Briefly describe your long-term career plans in 1-3 sentences.
2. Please describe any prior research-related experience and/or the areas of research you are curious or passionate about. Research-related experience can include mentor/professor-directed research or participation in science fairs or clubs, or any other activity (e.g., class) that required data collection and analysis. Please describe the project(s) and your contribution to it (them). Please note that having such prior experience is not a requirement for possible engagement in the program. (250 words maximum)
3. The BUILD and U-RISE programs value resilience and persistence. In this statement, please describe a situation where facing challenges shaped your academic/professional goals and desire to participate in our programs. (250 words maximum)
4. Tell us about an aspect of your own perspective or lived experience that is important to you and how it will help you contribute to our diverse and collaborative research community. (250 words maximum)

*Additional Tips:*

* Be yourself. This should tell your story to the committee. What about you is different? What are you passionate about?
* Reflect on your experiences and passions. Describe how your unique perspective, background and/or lived experiences influenced your motivation for research?
* What are some things that make your perspective unique? Use this space to reflect on what is different about you and/or your journey to CSULB – what stands out and how would that help you contribute to our research community?
* Not very familiar with research yet, that is ok! Learn more here: [What is Research?](https://www.csulb.edu/building-infrastructure-leading-to-diversity/what-research)
* Provide the review committee with insight into what motivates you.
* Proofread, proofread, proofread! Check for grammar, clarity, spelling, etc. Use spell check in word, G*rammarly, read it from the bottom up, and/or ask someone to review.*

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION**

1. This is not a template that you will be required to upload.
2. You will be prompted to answer each of the 4 prompts above as part of your online application in the InfoReady platform.