**Definition of Underrepresented/Disadvantaged background:**

Applicants **must** belong to one or more of the following groups:

1. Individuals from a diverse racial and ethnic group that is underrepresented in health-related sciences in the United States (African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Alaska Natives, Hawaiian Natives and natives of the US Pacific Islands).

2. Individuals with physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

3. Individuals who come from a family with annual income below established [low-income thresholds](#).

4. Individuals who will be the first child in their family to graduate from a four year university or college

5. Individuals who come from a social, cultural, or educational environment that recently directly inhibited the individual from obtaining the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to develop and participate in a research career.

If you believe you qualify under **criterion 5** or have other questions about eligibility, please contact the program before applying at ctsieduc@umn.edu.