Our Mission

The Harvard Chemistry Future Leaders Symposium (CFLS) will be held on Wednesday, 30 August 2023 at the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology (CCB). The mission of this symposium is to raise awareness of research opportunities at Harvard/CCB among senior graduate students and highlight a new postdoctoral fellowship (the CCB Chemistry Future Leaders Fellowship). The event will showcase the achievements of early career scholars in chemistry and adjacent fields who have made outstanding scientific contributions and have shown exemplary stewardship in research and education with a focus on equity, diversity, inclusion and belonging. Participants will also have opportunities to interact with potential postdoctoral mentors and colleagues in CCB. By providing a platform for meaningful connection between talented graduate scholars and Harvard CCB and creating clearer pathways for postdoctoral pursuits, especially for those populations underrepresented in STEM, this symposium will improve accessibility and inclusive excellence in our community.

Highlights

Each participant will share their research accomplishments in the form of a 20-minute oral presentation, with ample time for questions and discussion. Symposium participants will also have an opportunity to interact with CCB faculty, post-doctoral fellows, graduate and undergraduate students, and staff, through multiple social events, including connections with faculty mentors, round table discussions, department tours, and facilities tours.

How to Apply

We welcome applications from individuals who are currently senior graduate students pursuing studies in the chemical sciences or adjacent fields, broadly defined, and who plan to earn their Ph.D. degrees by July 2024. We encourage applications from students historically underrepresented in chemistry. Applicants should send their application package by 5:00 pm (ET) on Friday, 21 July 2023 via this link. Recommendation letters should be emailed to chemistryfutureleadersprogram@fas.harvard.edu

The application packages should include: (1) Curriculum Vitae, (2) Letter of recommendation from a research mentor or current graduate advisor, (3) Research Narrative: Applicants should describe their scientific contributions to date and place their work in the broader context of their field. Applicants are encouraged to discuss their unpublished work. 2 pg. maximum. (4) Career Goals and Advisor Preference: Applicants should discuss their goals for their long-term career plans and scientific interests. Applicants should identify at least one and no more than 3 current CCB faculty members who they see as potential postdoctoral mentors and describe their reasoning. Applicants are encouraged but not required to reach out to potential mentors as part of the application process. The applicant’s materials may be shared with the mentors they identify. 2 pg. maximum, (5) Formal writing sample: Applicants should submit a sample of their writing, such as a published or unpublished manuscript, grant application, research
proposal, thesis chapter or equivalent. (6) Equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging statement (1 page): Describe how your experiences, background, and/or identity have shaped your commitment toward advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging in academia.

**Access the application form [here](#).**

Please send any questions about the program to chemistryfutureleadersprogram@fas.harvard.edu