



AGENDA

Scholar Mentoring & Development Program for Medical Technology (SMDP MedTech) Outreach & Planning Committee

Video conference - Wednesday, September 10, 2025, 12:00 noon Eastern / 9:00 AM Pacific

<https://icpdprograms-org.zoom.us/j/89440073997?pwd=5ozYed5bWMLHctkn4CGpueOOjJ4nKZ.1>

Meeting ID: 894 4007 3997

Passcode: 395505

- Welcome & Introductions - **BOLD ITEMS WILL BE COVERED DURING THE CALL;**
For a more in-depth briefing contact Scott May at smay@icpdprograms.org or +1 (202) 441-7370
- SMDP enhancements
 - o **Applications for the 2026 SMDPs will go live in September**
 - o **Proposed revisions to the selection criteria**
(<https://smdp.icpdprograms.org/selection>). Suggest replacing these two objective criteria:
 - **1. Citizens or permanent residents of United States and Puerto Rico are eligible to apply**
 - **2. legally authorized to work permanently in the United States without needing a visa or sponsorship?**
 - o **With this objective criteria:**
Is currently enrolled at or received a degree from an accredited United States or Puerto Rico based institution of higher education within the past 2 years.
 - o The acronym now represents Scholar Mentoring and Development Program
 - o Objective criteria now includes "disadvantaged backgrounds," as defined here:
https://www.era.nih.gov/commons/disadvantaged_def.htm
- SMDP Alumni program
 - o **Debrief about SMDP Alumni Program in-person and virtual, June 16, Boston**
 - [Agenda](#)
 - **Attendees - 40 were in-person and 45 were virtual**
 - **Venues - The hotel venue worked well; the virtual session was well produced; future events will not be held on the same day as training**
 - o **Governance - SMDP Alumni Program Advisory Council (exists) and SMDP Alumni Program Steering Committee (being formed)**
 - o **2026 SMDP Alumni program to be held in-person and virtual, the event will occur on Saturday, June 20 in San Diego culminating with informal dinner**
 - o Scholar alumni research reports for SMDP Biotech and SMDP MedTech have been published: smdp.icpdprograms.org
- Partner Support
 - o **The budget for SMDP MedTech in 2025 was 30 Scholar/Mentor pairs; 30 scholar/mentor pairs are confirmed**
 - o **The 2026 sponsorship rate will be \$12,000 per scholar/mentor pair**
 - o Sponsorship information available here: icpdprograms.org/sponsorship
 - o Portal Orientation for recruiters at partner companies, schedule with Scott May



- **Sponsor Updates**
- Planning for 2025 SMDP MedTech training, October 3-8, San Diego, CA
 - Scholars - **Cohort has been set, representing 27 universities; thanks to the Selection Committee for scoring the applications**
 - Mentors - **Most mentors have been confirmed; DISCUSSION ITEM - importance of in-person attendance; advice on how the partner companies recruit and support their mentors?**
 - Agenda and Speaker needs - **This year the program begins Friday evening, October 3 and ends mid-day October 5; "draft agenda"**
https://smdp.icpdprograms.org/assets/y1lyu45dj3qh/page_widgets/Draft%20Agenda%202025%20SMDP%20MedTech_4.pdf
 - Venues - **The informal dinner will be at Punch Bowl Social; the training program will be at the Embassy Suites by Hilton San Diego Bay Downtown (the host hotel for the scholars); the scholars will have a site visit at JLABS @ San Diego**
 - The Annual Celebration of SMDP MedTech reception - **6:30-9:30 pm, Sunday, October 4 on The Emerald cruise ship in San Diego**
 - The 2025 MedTech Conference - **Early planning announcements; Scott May is confirming "pop-up" with four partner companies**
- Virtual programming -
 - **2024 SMDP Biotech Scholar End-of-Year Virtual Reunion was August 7**
 - **2024 SMDP MedTech Scholar Reunion Debrief, November 6**
 - **Jobs Board - Any member can post; engage recruiters; portal orientation for recruiters at partner companies, schedule with Scott May**
 - **App and interactive map live on portal**
 - Desire for Career Networking online event
 - Weekly email summary - If you would like to feature any of your activities in this email publication, then email Elisabeth Valerio (evalerio@icpdprograms.org)
 - Mentor Moments - Over 95 have been published
 - Career Spotlights - 48 Career Spotlights published, featuring SMDP alumni
 - Project pages; SMDP Gateway membership program
- Other ICPD program updates:
 - **ELISA - 2026 ELISA Business Scholars training session and ELISA Business Summit will be held March 19-22 in Hwange, Zimbabwe (near Victoria Falls); to partner contact Scott May**
 - **2026 SMDP Biotech training program will be held June 20-25 in San Diego**
- Other/Action items

Upcoming committee meetings:

- **Wednesday, November 5, 9-9:30 am PT**