

BSCP Participant Network Permission to Take Part in a Human Research Study

You are being asked to take part in a research study.

The Research

The research is being conducted to learn about participants (current students and alumni) of the Biomedical Science Careers Program (BSCP) and participants networking practices and preferences. Specifically, we are interested in learning about the current networking interactions and habits among BSCP participants; priority criteria for an online networking tool; and ways to increase networking engagement among BSCP alumni and participants.

Your Participation & Accountability

You are being asked to participate in this research because you participated in BSCP programming, are a BSCP Hope scholarship recipient, and/or are an advisor or judge for BSCP. Your participation in this study is valuable but voluntary and you may withdraw your participation or decline to participate in any part of this study at any time for any reason.

If you take part in this study, you will be asked to participate in a focus group of 6-12 individuals. A moderator will ask you several questions about BSCP networking while facilitating the discussion via Zoom. This virtual focus group will last approximately 90 minutes. It will be recorded, and a note-taker will attend. You will be asked several questions, including the frequency with which you network with fellow BSCP students and/or alumni, the methods you use to network and your preferences for a future networking tool to further student and alumni engagement.

Privacy & Confidentiality

Should you choose to participate, you will be asked to respect the privacy of other focus group members by not disclosing any content discussed during the study. Your responses will remain confidential, and no names will be included in the final report. The recordings will be retained for a maximum of one year following the focus group.

Risks & Benefits

The possible risks of participating in this study are the potential breach of confidentiality, but several measures to minimize this risk will be employed. Further, no person or entity outside of the research team will have access to the data, including race/ethnicity and gender. The research team will maintain complete control over these data elements. Data analyses will not be used to generate reports where individuals are identifiable. Data analyses and publications will not identify specific individuals. All electronic data will be stored on a secure server with access restricted to the Principal Investigators, BSCP Executive Director and Program Manager, and research personnel involved in data analysis. Your participation in this study may benefit you and other current and former BSCP participants by leading to the creation of an online networking tool.

Contact

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this study, please contact:

- Hollie DeSilva, Executive Director, BSCP
Hollie_DeSilva@hms.harvard.edu; Biomedical Science Careers Program c/o Harvard Medical School, 164 Longwood Avenue, 2nd Floor, Boston, MA 02115-5818; (617) 432-0552

By signing up for a focus group and logging in you are agreeing to the terms of this agreement.