



COLLEGE OF  
BEHAVIORAL &  
SOCIAL SCIENCES



**SOCIAL JUSTICE**  
ALLIANCE

## **2024 BSOS Summer Research Initiative & The Bowie State University and University of Maryland Social Justice Alliance**

### **The Social Justice Alliance Statement of Interest Instructions**

#### **About The Social Justice Alliance**

The Bowie State University (BSU) and The University of Maryland (UMD) have created a social justice alliance to honor the legacy of BSU alumnus, 1st Lt. Richard W. Collins III, and to promote social justice on our campuses. Led by faculty experts from each university, the alliance addresses critical issues facing campuses, communities and the nation by engaging our students and communities to bring about the social justice change we want to see. The alliance hosts public programming, including symposiums and a national conference, to stimulate conversations and direct action for change. The alliance provides learning opportunities for BSU and UMD students by infusing social justice education into the curriculum and experiential activities like the BSOS Summer Research Initiative (SRI).

#### **Purpose of the Statement of Interest**

Applicants are required to write statements of interest that provide detailed explanations of their education and career goals. The statements of interest help us better understand how your graduate training and career goals align with the specific missions of the Social Justice Alliance and the BSOS Summer Research Initiative.

#### **Statement of Interest Instructions**

Please provide a statement that explains your educational and career goals, as well as your diversity and inclusion or social justice interests, experiences, and your potential for making future contributions as described below.

**Educational and Career Goals (REQUIRED)** The goal of the BSOS SRI Social Justice Alliance internship is to increase knowledge of, and interest in, doctoral-level training across a spectrum of academic disciplines, but especially within the social and behavioral sciences.

Therefore, we are especially interested in those who plan to pursue graduate education in the behavioral and social sciences. Please describe your 1) plans for graduate training; 2) your specific field(s) of interest and research questions or areas you plan to pursue in graduate school; 3) how your graduate training and career goals align with the Social Justice Alliance; and 4) how you believe the Social Justice Alliance internship might help you reach your educational and career goals.

**Diversity and Inclusion (REQUIRED)** The Social Justice Alliance is committed to promoting social justice and change by addressing critical issues facing college campuses, communities, and the nation. Please integrate into your statement of interest how you plan to contribute to the mission of the Social Justice Alliance through your research, service, mentoring, or teaching into the future. Please also address any of the following if they pertain to your interests, experiences, and aspirations: 1) contributing to research that benefits or addresses diverse communities, underserved communities, or communities that have been historically distressed or disadvantaged; 2) contributing to research that addresses disparities that impact underserved communities (e.g., mental health, health, educational, economic, etc.); 3) contributing to research that addresses economic, social, legal, or environmental justice; 4) increasing the diversity of the researchers themselves by your presence or through your recruitment or inclusion efforts; 5) promoting greater diversity and inclusion in research, education, clinical or public service settings, or policy settings.

### **Additional Guidance**

Please limit your statements of interest to a maximum of 1,200 words (no more than two single-spaced, letter-sized pages, with 1" margins and 12-point font, either Times New Roman or Arial). Elements of the statements of interest are unique to our program's mission, therefore, please read the statements of interest instructions carefully.

**TIP:** Students who explain how their specific areas of interest relate to the research of the Social Justice Alliance are most likely to stand out in our application review process. Therefore, applicants should visit [The Social Justice Alliance](#) website to learn more about it and understand its mission.

### **For More Information**

If you have any questions about the Social Justice Alliance application, please contact the SRI Coordinator, Brittney Robinson, at [brobins7@umd.edu](mailto:brobins7@umd.edu).