



The Brain Health Scholar Program

The Brain Health Scholar program is open to high school (15 years or older), undergraduate, and graduate student leaders who participate in a youth program, attend a school or a school within a school district (others by special consideration), or college/university that are collaborating with the Brain Health Initiative.

An authorized representative of the nominating organization will nominate identified student leader(s). The qualified candidate(s) should have an interest in science, medicine, health and human services, and/or education. Brain Health Scholars have the right to refuse the nomination and may withdraw from participation at any time during the project.

Brain Health Scholars have the opportunity to participate in a hybrid model with Brain Health Initiative clinicians and scientists. Specifically, Scholars help carry out the community engagement, research, and innovation agenda with the Brain Health Initiative to better understand and take action on the brain health and well-being concerns, values, priorities, and attitudes of both youth and adults. Scholars participate in didactic training related to the science of brain health, as well as the scientific process of community-based research that translates science into action to promote and protect brain health, fight brain illness and improve brain performance for all ages.

Brain Health Scholar Program Components

BRAIN HEALTH INITIATIVE **Brain Health Scholar Program**

The two year, four term program consists of didactic online training, labs, research and service. In terms 2-4 Scholars participate in service activities with community partners as a Brain Health Educator in a track of choice* (e.g., Early Childhood Brain Health Promotion, Youth Mental Health, Brain Healthy Lifestyle-Community Health, Arts and Culture, Dementia Risk-Reduction, Brain Healthy Nutrition).

Term 1	Term 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lifestyle Medicine for the Brain trainingIntro to Community Based Research MethodologyLabs (practical application of core brain health content and research methods)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Brain Health Community Educator trainingFacilitator training in track of choice*Service: <i>Be Brain Healthy; Be Brain Powerful Campaign and Challenge</i>; Participate in chosen track*
Term 3	Term 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continuing education and Labs (practical application of core brain health content and research methods)Service: <i>Be Brain Healthy; Be Brain Powerful Campaign and Challenge</i>; Participate in chosen track*Facilitate short presentations as Community Brain Health Educator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Continuing education and Labs (practical application of core brain health content and research methods)Service: <i>Be Brain Healthy; Be Brain Powerful Campaign and Challenge</i>; Participate in chosen track*Facilitate short presentations as a Community Brain Health Educator

www.brainhealthinitiative.org

The Scholars learn how to translate science into action to impact themselves and those they care about. This program is also strategically planned to personally support youth thought leaders and those they interact with through the stressful period of adolescent and young adult development,

to normalize and destigmatize their lived brain health and illness experiences and to share the science of brain health and performance.

The Brain Health Scholar must have reliable access to the internet. Some elective research, community engagement and outreach responsibilities will require transportation. All scholars will receive an annual certificate of participation documenting service hours.

Duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Complete confidentiality agreement.
- Attend and complete didactic training including webinars, labs, and presentations on the science of brain health and research methods.
- Upon completion of training, serve as a Brain Health Community Educator.
- Complete the [BHI youth stakeholder prioritization survey](#). In doing so, the research assistant will contribute a youth perspective on the brain health risk and protective factors in their community, and help to shape the research, community engagement, and intervention agenda.
- Assist in all stages of the research process on various BHI projects, including needs assessment, planning (program design), implementation and evaluation. BHI research projects may be descriptive, qualitative, quantitative, or exploratory.
- Assist in creating communications and recruitment of future Brain Health Scholars.
- Assist with creating press releases and participating in media events regarding the BH Scholar program.
- Serve as Brain Health Champions in schools and at community events.
- Manage and respond to project related emails.
- Receive support in the college undergraduate and graduate admissions process through letters of introduction and personal outreach by BHI faculty to the scholars' top college choices.

[Watch a short video about the Brain Health Scholar Program](#)

[View letters from current and previous Brain Health Scholars](#)

About the Brain Health Initiative (www.brainhealthinitiative.org)

The Brain Health Initiative (BHI), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, uses a cutting-edge approach to protecting brain health, promoting brain performance, and preventing and fighting brain illness across the lifespan. The BHI is building brain healthy communities, cultures that foster brain health protective factors and address risk factors, thereby improving brain health and optimizing brain performance outcomes for the Florida Suncoast region and beyond. Join the ***Be Brain Healthy*** movement, ***because brain health matters, and lifestyle makes a difference.***

Parent Informed Consent Form

I, the undersigned, certify that I am the parent or legal guardian _____
(name of the child) and that I have the right to make decisions for my child that affect his/her well-being.

If my child is awarded a Brain Health Scholar appointment, I give permission for my child, _____ to participate. I have read the description of the position and understand the expectations for my child's participation. I understand that my child's right to withdraw from participating or refuse to participate will be respected and that his/her responses and identity will be kept confidential.

I voluntarily consent for my child to participate.

I do not consent for my child to participate.

_____ (please initial) I give permission for my child's photo, video, or any work they produce, to be published on the BHI website and for use in community media or scientific publication.

Parent Signature

Date

Print Full Name

Phone/Email Contact

If parents are separated, or divorced and share joint custody, please provide additional signature:

Parent Signature

Date

Print Full Name

Phone/Email Contact

Please return this completed consent form to via email to: admin@brainhealthinitiative.org