

Rare Research Launchpad

Helping the next generation explore careers in rare disease research

FREE ONLINE COURSE



Many rare diseases still have significant unmet research needs, yet students and early career trainees may have little exposure to rare disease research or the many ways their interests and skills could contribute to the field. NORD created **Rare Research Launchpad: A Career Exploration Series in Rare Disease Research** to provide an accessible entry point for exploring these opportunities.

What is Rare Research Launchpad?

Rare Research Launchpad is a free, virtual, self-paced course and downloadable Research Exploration Toolkit for students and early-career trainees.

Through expert-led sessions and family perspectives, learners will:

- Explore cystic fibrosis and Krabbe disease as real-world examples of rare disease research
- Learn how discoveries move from the laboratory toward patient care
- Discover how different disciplines and training backgrounds contribute to rare disease research
- Explore career paths and practical ways to gain research experience, build skills, and find mentors

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Who is it for?

Undergraduate, graduate (PhD/MS), medical students (MD/DO), and post-baccalaureate students and other early-career trainees interested in molecular biology, genetics, neuroscience, biomedical science, translational science, and related fields.

From Exploration to Action

The accompanying **Research Exploration Toolkit** offers practical guidance for exploring research paths, building skills, finding research and training opportunities, and connecting with potential mentors at different stages of your training.

Help Us Reach Future Rare Disease Researchers

Faculty, mentors, advisors, academic programs, and rare disease organizations can help by sharing Rare Research Launchpad with students and trainees, including those who may not have considered rare disease research before.

learn.rarediseases.org

ENROLL TODAY!

