



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

# Summer CAMP

*(Cambridge Access to Mental Health and Psychology)*

**Online: 11th – 29th August**

**Residential: 1st – 2nd September 2025**

## ABOUT SUMMER CAMP 2025

Now entering its fifth year, researchers in psychiatry and psychology at the University of Cambridge are hosting a hybrid summer programme. We recognize that certain groups of students are underrepresented in postgraduate study and academic careers, especially those from ethnic minority backgrounds or lower socioeconomic status, and we are taking active steps to address this inequality.

Over the course of a **3 week online programme and a 2 day residential** at the University of Cambridge, Summer CAMP is an opportunity for current undergraduate students with a **passion for mental health and psychology** to develop necessary skills for postgraduate-level research and build connections within academia.

[Applications open in April](#)

Got a question? Email us at **[summer\\_CAMP@medschl.cam.ac.uk](mailto:summer_CAMP@medschl.cam.ac.uk)**

## THE SUMMER CAMP EXPERIENCE

A critical research skill is knowing how to turn an academic interest into a concrete research question with a tangible plan. CAMP Scholars will be **paired with a Cambridge postgraduate researcher** who will provide one-on-one supervision to help develop this skill.

Over the course of the three-week online programme, Scholars will **write a research proposal** (1200-word limit) on a topic of their choice which aligns with their postgraduate supervisor's work\*. They will arrange 5 one-hour supervision meetings to come up with a realistic proposal for a masters-level research project. Supervisors will provide guidance on structuring the proposal, reading, and citing research articles, writing in an academic style, and other necessary skills.

At the residential, Scholars will each give a short **oral presentation** on their proposal and get the opportunity to network with other attendees. After the programme, supervisors will provide feedback on the written proposal and presentation.

### **The programme will also include:**

- Academic skills workshops
- Q&A panel on postgraduate student life
- Session on postgraduate applications and funding
- Talks from Cambridge faculty

\*Please note that Scholars will not be conducting any research during the programme or carrying out their proposed project with their supervisor



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## THE RESEARCH PROPOSAL

A **research proposal** is a document which outlines what you would like to research and how you intend to research it. It includes a background section summarising what is already known about your topic and the central aims of your study; a methods section detailing how you will collect and analyse data; and a conclusion discussing why your proposed work is important.

Postgraduate psychology courses often require a research proposal as part of their application, and for PhD programmes, it is arguably the most important document you will submit. It gives you, as the applicant, the opportunity to demonstrate that you have the aptitude for postgraduate-level research, can concisely communicate complex ideas, and that your interests are a good fit for the supervisor to whom you are applying.

However, undergraduate students are not typically taught how to write a research proposal, which can make the postgraduate applications process daunting. We hope that Summer CAMP will provide our Scholars with the practical knowledge and confidence to pursue academic research in mental health and psychology.

## WHO CAN APPLY?

Summer CAMP is open to **undergraduate students** who are currently based in the UK (except those studying at Cambridge or Oxford) and interested in pursuing research careers or postgraduate study in mental health or psychology.

The programme is not restricted to students studying psychology.

**Applicants must meet at least one of the following eligibility criteria:**

- First generation to attend university
- From an ethnic minority background
- Having sought asylum in the UK and/or identify as a refugee
- Having been eligible for free school meals
- Education has been affected by illness or disability
- Having been, or currently are, in care
- Having been, or currently are, a carer





## APPLICATION PROCESS

Short-listed applicants will be invited to an informal online interview shortly after the application deadline, where you will have the chance to discuss your research interests with potential supervisors.

If selected, to accept your place, you must be available to attend the in-person residential.

Summer CAMP is an entirely **free** programme - your travel to Cambridge, food and accommodation will all be covered if you are offered a place.

**APRIL**

Applications open

**MAY**

Application deadline

**JUNE/JULY**

Interviews and decisions announced

**AUGUST**

Online programme & proposal writing

**SEPTEMBER**

Residential at University of Cambridge

## WHAT PAST SCHOLARS SAY ABOUT SUMMER CAMP

*“CAMP was an excellent opportunity to get to know more about the academic world and all the opportunities it has to offer. I feel more confident now to apply for further education programs and writing a research proposal does not feel so scary anymore.”* - Summer CAMP Participant

*“I was quite nervous since I am just starting my undergraduate, however [CAMP] has been super beneficial because I learnt basic things such as referencing, citing, how to read a journal article and just listening to the talks and what different areas in research there is.”* - Summer CAMP Participant

**We look forward to receiving your application!**

