

Biomedical Series FAQ

1. Who should enroll?

Although this program is targeted at P&S research staff currently engaged in biomedical research, UI faculty and other UI staff members are also encouraged to enroll.

2. What is the goal of the series?

Our goal is to familiarize participants with a variety of topics and their impact on research, build awareness of the high quality and diversity of biomedical research on campus as well as to provide interaction with leading University of Iowa investigators.

3. Who administers the certificate?

UI Learning & Development, in conjunction with the course instructors, monitors class attendance. The certificates will be awarded, at a ceremony that will take place at the end of the series, to those individuals who complete all series requirements. The certificates are in recognition of your work and commitment by the University of Iowa; they are not associated with any national professional organization.

4. I have time-dependent experiments and might need to miss one or two classes. Will I still get a certificate?

If you are unable to complete a course within one of the course groups, contact [Ken Moore](#) to arrange a make-up offering within the next 12 months.

5. How do I arrange release time to take this course?

We suggest that you discuss the educational programs you are interested in with your supervisor. Your supervisor may grant you release time to attend the session in regular pay status to support your professional development and your work in your department. If the supervisor is unable or unwilling to approve release time, you may request to use vacation for the time missed, again subject to the scheduling approval of your department that you can be away from work for this period of time.

6. Will there be a lab section where I can practice the techniques we discuss in the courses?

At this time, there are no formal lab sections planned. Participants are provided opportunities to network with labs that perform techniques of interest. Laboratory tours will be arranged on an individual basis. (This will be discussed by the presenter.) It is our hope that this will lead to independent mentoring sessions where staff can obtain more hands-on experience.

7. Will this provide job security if I participate?

No coursework can guarantee a secure future. While the resulting certificate is a tangible demonstration of your commitment and increased knowledge base, it is up to the employee to increase productivity after the course/series is complete.

8. I've already taken some Learning & Development classes. Can I substitute them for the Personal Development requirements?

We can allow you to substitute some classes, if they have been completed within the past year. Please make this request of the [series coordinator](#).

9. What if I want to take all of the classes, and not just those that are required?

We encourage everyone to participate to the extent that his or her work schedule allow. Please see the guidelines in FAQ 5 for more details.