

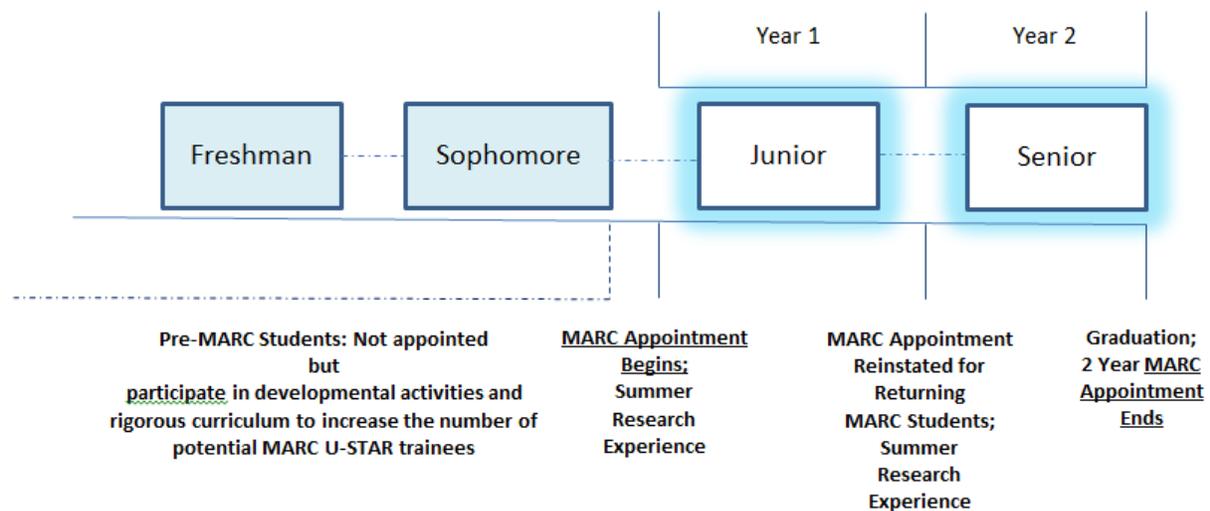
MARC U-STAR (T34) Trainee Appointment Policy

Effective July 1, 2013

Students are expected to participate as MARC scholars in the MARC U-STAR honors program during their final 2 years of the undergraduate tenure, typically referred to as the junior and senior years.

Therefore, MARC programs are to make student appointments annually in **June** (when all MARC U-STAR awards are made) through **September 30** to either: 1) rising juniors new to the program or 2) returning MARC students who are rising seniors. The consecutive 2 year period (which is anywhere from 21-24 months) includes the Summer Research Experience (SRE; for policy details see <http://www.nigms.nih.gov/Training/MARC/U-STAR-SRE.htm>) training months.

Typical MARC U-STAR Trainee Appointment Period: 2 Year Program



MARC programs should be developing talent and not merely selecting talent, which takes an extensive commitment to develop trainees who form strong identities as budding scientists. NIGMS understands that it takes a considerable amount of time and effort to develop students who will, within 3 years of completing their undergraduate degree, enter competitive biomedical or behavioral Ph.D. programs and be able to thrive in graduate school.

In rare cases, should a MARC trainee appointment be needed **after September 30**, a formal written request, with a strong justification, is required. The request is to be submitted to the NIGMS MARC program director through the MARC grantee's business office for NIGMS staff to consider.