

SURE 2019 Program

Summer Undergraduate Research Experiences

Guidelines

The science departments at Indiana State University solicit applications from students interested in participating in the Summer Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE) 2019 Program. This program is open to all ISU undergraduates who wish to pursue research in the natural sciences and intend to enroll in classes at ISU in Fall 2019. The SURE program typically engages about 40 students, of which roughly a third are rising sophomores (students who just completed their freshman year), a third are rising juniors, and a third are seniors. Scholarships are generally offered to students who will have completed at least one year of coursework in biology, chemistry, geology, and/or physics by May 2019.

RESEARCH COMMITMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP

Students will spend ten weeks during the summer engaged in research under the direction of a faculty mentor. The SURE 2019 program is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, May 22 and end on Friday, August 2. Alternate beginning and ending dates must be agreed to by the research student and faculty mentor. However, a total of ten weeks effort is generally expected.

Students will be awarded a \$3,500 scholarship for full-time effort (~40 hrs/wk) or a \$1,750 scholarship for half-time effort (~20 hrs/wk). Full-time research students should consider this experience their principal source of income for the summer. Students who have significant employment outside the SURE program should not expect to receive a full-time scholarship. Students may hold a part-time job, in addition to their full-time scholarship, but their work hours for that job should be largely limited to weekends.

All SURE researchers, including students and faculty, will meet every Friday throughout the program for a seminar series, at which students will periodically give brief presentations on their research focus and progress. The students will also present their work at the SURE 2019 Research Symposium to be held at the conclusion of the 10-week summer experience. SURE students are encouraged to continue their research during the 2019-2020 academic year and to present the results of their effort at regional and/or national research symposia.

RESEARCH AND SUMMER CLASSES

Students who wish to take summer classes should not apply for full-time scholarships. Students on half-time scholarships will generally have sufficient time outside the research laboratory to take one class on campus in each of the two summer sessions (Summer IA and IB). The student should discuss his or her interest in summer coursework with their faculty research mentor before registering for any summer classes.

Students may register for transcript credit for their summer research experience, typically earning up to one credit hour per 100 hours in the research laboratory. There are other obligations (such as formal oral and written reports) that may be required of the student, and the student is responsible for paying tuition for this credit. Interested students should speak to both their faculty mentor and academic advisor.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Research scholarships will be awarded via a competitive selection process. ***Students seeking a summer scholarship are strongly encouraged to speak directly to potential research mentors regarding their participation in research projects of interest.*** Each student will then complete an application form listing their preference of up to three projects that they are interested in pursuing. Application forms are due to the Chemistry and Physics Department Office (Science 35) on noon, Friday, February 15, 2019.

Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of interest, qualification, and academic performance. SURE scholarships will be awarded in early March. All applicants will be notified of the final outcome of the selection process by no later than Friday, March 8, 2019.

A list of projects can be found at http://carbon.indstate.edu/SURE/SURE_2019_Projects.pdf. An application form can be found at http://carbon.indstate.edu/SURE/SURE_2019_Application_Form.pdf.