



Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program

Introduction

The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) invites undergraduate students from all colleges and academic disciplines at the University of Idaho to apply for a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF). The SURF Program is a 10-week summer program running June through early August that allows students to work full-time on faculty-mentored projects in any field of study. Each award includes a \$5,000 student fellowship given as a stipend and \$925 in research funds to help cover the cost of materials and supplies, project-related travel expenses, etc.

To enrich the research experience Fellows are provided with the opportunity to attend academic and professional development workshops throughout the summer. Fellows are required to present the results of their work at ***both*** Idaho Conference on Undergraduate Research, held each July, and the UI Undergraduate Research Symposium held during the following Spring Semester.

Application Process

Students must submit a written proposal as outlined below and a letter of support from a UI faculty research advisor indicating willingness to support and mentor the student through the research project. The faculty mentor should assist the student in preparing the written proposal, but the proposal must be the student's own work.

Research Proposal Components

1. SURF Program Cover Sheet
2. Abstract (200-word limit)
3. Project Description (4-page limit)
 - i. Introduction, including background and significance of the project.
 - ii. Project Design, including objectives, methods, and expected outcomes.
 - iii. Detailed Timeline, with goals and target completion dates.
4. Literature/references
5. Budget and Budget Justification (1-page limit). Budgets should cover only what is absolutely needed for the completion of the project. NOTE: Budgets must be spent by June 15th of each calendar year leaving limited time to purchase supplies. PLAN AHEAD! Budget Preparedness is a metric of proposal review!
6. Letter of recommendation from UI faculty research adviser

Application Deadlines

Complete applications (SURF Program Cover Sheet, proposal, faculty letter of support) must be submitted electronically to the Office of Undergraduate Research at our@uidaho.edu

Deadline for Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships: **Feb 15**, students will be notified by March 10th. Supply budgets will be set up by April 1 and ready to spend. Notify and utilize your Departmental Finance Specialist as soon as budgets are available due to the hastened supply spending period!

Applications will be judged on the following criteria:

- Research proposal is clearly written and demonstrates the applicant's understanding of the nature and purpose of the project, how it relates to other work in the field, and it includes a plan for accomplishing project goals.
- The proposed project allows the student to take intellectual ownership and can be reasonably completed in a 10-week period.
- Student is prepared for the project (coursework, experience, etc.)
- Budget is well prepared and justified.
- The mentor submitted supportive recommendation document.

Final Report and Presentation

At the conclusion of the project each recipient must submit to the OUR, a written report with interpretation and analysis of the project results that should be consistent with the standards of the discipline. Additionally, the results must be presented in an oral or poster presentation at **both** ICUR and the University-wide Undergraduate Research Symposium held annually in April.

Note: ICUR is a poster session and therefore the student must prepare, and the student or faculty mentor must *print* a poster for this event. The OUR has held back \$75 from a separate budget to help print the posters in early July prior to departure for ICUR.

Research Compliance

If the proposed project will involve research on human subjects or will involve vertebrate animals, infectious agents, hazardous chemicals, radioactive materials, recombinant DNA, and/or patents and copyrights, the student will need to submit his/her research protocol to the appropriate University review committee for approval. Students must consult with the faculty mentor to determine if the project requires approval from a University review committee. In some cases, the faculty mentor may already have obtained approval for the research or creative project.

For additional information contact:

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