

University of Idaho

Office of Undergraduate Research

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program

Introduction

The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) invites undergraduate students from all 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 \$4,000 student fellowship given as a stipend and \$1,000 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 the UI Undergraduate Research Symposium held during the following spring semester.

Application Process

Students must submit 1) **SURF Program Cover Sheet**, 2) a **written proposal** as outlined below and a 3) a **letter of support** from a UI faculty mentor indicating willingness to support and mentor the student. The faculty mentor should assist the student in preparing the written proposal but the proposal must be student's own work.

Research Proposal Components

1. Abstract (200 word limit)
2. Project Description (4 page limit)
 - i. Introduction, including background and significance of the project
 - ii. Project Design, including objectives, methods
 - iii. Detailed Timeline, with goals and target completion dates
3. Literature/references
4. Budget and Budget Justification (1 page limit). Budgets should cover only what is absolutely needed for completion of the project. The budget should include \$75 to cover the cost of poster printing for the UI Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Submitting Applications

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

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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.
- Proposed project allows student to take intellectual ownership and can be reasonably completed in a 10-week period.
- Student is prepared for the project (coursework, experience, etc.)
- Mentor has submitted supportive recommendation

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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our@uidaho.edu