

# SURE 2017 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) 2017 Program. The program is open to all ISU undergraduates who wish to pursue research in the natural sciences and intend enroll in classes at ISU in the fall semester of 2017. Because the science faculty are particularly interested in encouraging students to pursue research early in their undergraduate career, it is anticipated that several scholarships will be offered to first- and second-year students. 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 2017.

### RESEARCH COMMITMENT AND SCHOLARSHIP

Student researchers will spend ten weeks during the summer actively engaged in research under the direction of the science faculty. The SURE 2017 program is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, May 24 and end on Friday, August 4. Alternate beginning and ending dates can be considered at the request of the research student. However, a total of ten weeks effort is generally expected.

Research students will be awarded a \$3,500 scholarship for full-time (~40 hrs/wk) effort or a \$1,750 scholarship for half-time (~20 hrs/wk). It is generally expected that full-time research students consider this experience their principal source of income for the summer. The faculty are not particularly interested in offering full-time scholarships to students who have significant employment commitments outside the SURE program. 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.

In addition to hands-on research, the SURE research students and their faculty advisors will participate in a Friday seminar series. Research students will periodically give five-minute presentations of their research progress during the course of the summer. Research students will also have the opportunity to present their work at the SURE 2017 Research Symposium to be held at the conclusion of the 10-week experience. Students will be encouraged to continue their research and present their activities at regional and/or national research symposia during the 2017-2018 academic year.

### 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 experience 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 supervisor 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 50 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 any course fees. Interested students should speak to their 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 advisors 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 Department of Chemistry Office (Science 35) on noon, Friday, February 17, 2017.

Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of interest, qualification, and academic performance. The committee will begin awarding fellowships in mid-February, requesting that awardees return signed letters of acceptance. All applicants will be notified of the final outcome of the selection process by no later than Friday, March 10, 2017.

A list of participating faculty can be found at [http://carbon.indstate.edu/SURE/SURE\\_2017\\_Faculty.pdf](http://carbon.indstate.edu/SURE/SURE_2017_Faculty.pdf).  
An application form can be found at [http://carbon.indstate.edu/SURE/SURE\\_2017\\_Application\\_Form.pdf](http://carbon.indstate.edu/SURE/SURE_2017_Application_Form.pdf).