

SURE 2014 Program Summer Undergraduate Research Experiences Guidelines

The College of Arts and Sciences and Departments in the Natural Sciences are soliciting applications for fellowships for the 2014 Summer Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE) Program. This program is open to all Indiana State University undergraduates who wish to pursue research in the natural or social sciences during the summer of 2014. Because we are particularly interested in encouraging students who are early in their undergraduate career to become pursue research, it is anticipated that several of fellowships will be offered to first- and second-year students.

ABOUT THE SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM

This 10-week program is scheduled to begin on May 14, 2014 and finish on July 25, 2014. Alternate beginning and ending dates for the research experience can be considered at the request of the Research Fellow. Research Fellows will be awarded a \$3,500 stipend for a full-time research experience or a \$1,750 stipend for a half-time research experience (pre-taxes). Over the course of the summer, Research Fellows will actively engage in research under the supervision of faculty. In addition to hands-on research, Fellows and their faculty advisors will participate in a weekly summer seminar series. Finally, Research Fellows will have the opportunity to present their work at a Research Symposium to be held at the conclusion of the 10-week experience. Additionally, students will be encouraged to continue their research and present their activities at regional and/or national research symposia during the 2014-2015 academic year.

RESEARCH COMMITMENT

Full-time Summer Research Fellows are expected to commit ten weeks of full-time effort (roughly 40 hours per week) to their project. For summer 2014, the research experience will begin on Wednesday, May 14 and conclude on Friday, July 25. Alternate beginning and ending dates for the research experience can be considered at the request of the Research Fellow. However, a total of ten weeks effort (~400 hrs) is generally expected for a full-time fellowship, of which a majority should overlap the May 14-July 25 timeframe.

It is expected that the Research Fellows consider this experience their principal source of income for the summer. We are not particularly interested in offering full-time fellowships to students who have significant employment commitments outside their respective Departments. Students may hold a part-time job, in addition to their fellowship, but their work hours for that job should be largely limited to weekends.

All fellows and faculty advisors will participate in a weekly seminar series. These seminars, to be held every Friday at noon during the ten-week period, will give the students and their mentors the opportunity to present periodic updates of their research efforts. We envision that the fellows will give brief, 5-minute presentations once every three weeks. Lunch will be provided. We anticipate that a Research Symposium will be held at the end of the summer research experience where students will prepare and present their work in a poster format.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Research fellowships will be awarded via a competitive selection process. ***Students seeking a summer fellowship 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 on noon, Friday, February 14, 2014.

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 7, 2014.

A list of projects and their descriptions available for the 2014 SURE Program can be found at http://carbon.indstate.edu/SURE/SURE_projects_2014.pdf. An application form for the SURE 2014 Program can be found at http://carbon.indstate.edu/SURE/SURE_application_2014.pdf.