

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 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 \$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 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
 - 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 completion of the project. The budget should include \$75 to cover the cost of poster printing for the Undergraduate Research Symposium.
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: **Apr 1**, student will be notified by May 1

Applications will be judged on the following criteria:

Research proposal is clearly written and demonstrated the applicant's understanding of the nature and purpose of the project, how it related 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 reasonable completed in a 10-week period.

Student is prepared for the project (coursework, experience, etc.)

Mentor has submitted supportive recommendation

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. In addition, the results must be presented in an oral or poster presentation in a public forum, typically at the university-wide Undergraduate Research Symposium held annually in April.

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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