College Center for Research & Fellowships (CCRF)

ccrf.uchicago.edu
Planning for Summer Research

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Summer Research: Why participate?

• Immersive and Transformative research experience
• New or more advanced experience
  • Research skills-building
• Building resume/CV
• Funding
  • Some programs are fully-funded!
• Career training or preparation
  • Professional Development
  • Exploration of career goals
Summer Research: *Why* participate?

- Community-building
- Advising and Staff support
- Mentorship
  - Recommendations
- Exploring another institution/area
- Gaining communications skills
- Fitness for:
  - Graduate School
  - Fellowships and Scholarships
Summer Research: *What options?*

- Research Assistants/Associates
- Research Project
- Formal Research Programs
  - Domestic/International
    - 8-11 weeks
- Research Internships
Summer Research: *What* to consider?

- Program Fit
  - Area of research
  - Where?
  - What want to achieve
  - Academic & Career goals
  - Eligibility
- Program/Opportunity dates
- Funding
Summer Research: *When to look?*

- **Application Deadlines:** *VARY*
  - Never too early to look and plan

- **National/International Su Research Programs:**
  - Late autumn quarter (Dec) - Early winter quarter (Feb/March)

- **UChicago (variable):**
  - Research programs: late autumn – early winter
  - Grant/Internship Applications: Early spring (April-May)

*Note: Summer research programs and deadlines may be affected by COVID-19*
Summer Research: *Where to look?*

- No one-stop shop
- Locations
  - At UChicago
  - Beyond UChicago
    - National
    - International
Summer Research: at/through UChicago

- Apply for posted position
  - CCRF Research Opportunities Database
- Handshake
- UChicago Departments
  - Websites
  - Listservs
  - Director of Undergraduate Studies
Summer Research: *at* / *through* UChicago

- Find Research Mentor/Project
  - Use summer scholarship/funding $$: Odyssey, etc.
  - Ask if mentor provides summer pay
- Seek Funding
  - College Summer Research Fellows Fund
    - All majors interested in PhD
  - PRISM Research Grants
    - Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences
  - CCRF: Dean’s Fund for Undergraduate Research
  - Metcalf Fellowship/Internship Grants
Summer Research: *at/through UChicago*

- **Departments**
  - [BSCD Summer Fellowship Program](#)
  - Various Fellowship opportunities
  - [Earl R Franklin Research Fellowship in Psychology](#)
    - 3rd year Psychology majors – early April deadline
  - [James R. Norris Jr. Grant for Undergraduate Summer Research in Chemistry](#)
- **Institutes/Centers**
  - Pozen Family Center for Human Rights
- **Affiliated Labs:** Argonne National Laboratory
Summer Research: at/through UChicago Programs

- **CCRF: College Summer Institute**
  - Arts & Humanities, Social Sciences

- **Summer Institute in Social Research Methods (SISRM)**
  - Summer Course + RA (2/25 deadline)

- **University of Chicago and University of Sussex International Junior Research Associates Program (IJRA)**
  - Humanities

- **Galapagos Urbanization & Sustainable Development Research Program**
Summer Research: at/through UChicago

Programs

• [John Metcalf Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows (SURF)]
  • Marine Biological Laboratory
  • Other Metcalf Research Programs
• [Center for Global Health (CGH) Summer Research Fellowship] – TBD - [Check website]
  • Interdisciplinary
  • Medical and Global Health Research
Summer Research: *at/through* UChicago

**Programs**

- **Summer International Travel Grants (SITG)**
  - African Studies; Nassef Sawiris; 3rd Year Research Grants (2/5 deadline)

- **Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF)**
  - Arts, Humanities & Qualitative Social Sciences – 2nd years
  - Apply through UChicago program – URM s encouraged

- **Leadership Alliance’s Summer Research Early Identification Program (SR-EIP)** –
  - 22+ participants; Several Disciplines; application for 3 sites
Summer Research: *at/through* UChicago Programs

- National Opinion Research Center (NORC) *Summer Internship Program*
  - Social Science (Survey) Research
- The *Data and Computing Summer Lab* – Department of Computer Sciences – *Info session (1/28), Feb 28 deadline*
- Pritzker School of Medicine “Pipeline Programs”
  - Chicago Academic Medicine Program (CAMP I & II)
  - Experience in Research (PSOMER)
- UChicago Medicine – *EYES on Cancer*
Summer Research: at/through UChicago Programs

- **Energy Policy Institute at Chicago (EPIC) Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship**
  - 2-3 undergrads each year – recruiting in spring

- **Grossman Institute for Neuroscience, Quantitative Biology and Human Behavior**
  - Metcalf and Undergraduate Research Fellowships

- **Oriental Institute: Archaeological Projects**

- **NSF REUs**
  - Math; MRSEC & Physics (2/15); & Molecular Genetics & Cell Biology (external)
Summer Research: beyond UChicago

Summer Program Search Engines

• NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)
  • STEM & Social Sciences
• Institute for Broadening Participation’s (IBP) Pathways to Science
  • Advanced Search
  • International Students
• Disciplines:
  • Medical & Life Sciences; Engineering & Physical Sciences; Mathematics & Computational Sciences; Earth, Environmental & Agriculture Sciences; Technology; Social Sciences; Business; Arts & Media
Summer Research: beyond UChicago

Summer Program Search Engines (cont)

• [Big Ten Academic Alliance: Summer Research Opportunity Program (SRP)](#) – 2/11 deadline
  • Apply to up to 10 programs
  • STEM; Social/Behavioral Sciences; Interdisciplinary

• [Biomedical Research Internships Catalog](#)
  • 260 biomedical research internships
Summer Research: beyond UChicago

Summer Research Opportunities: National

- Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
  **Summer Undergraduate Research Programs**
  - For careers in medical research
  - ~100 Summer Undergraduate Research Programs
- Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programs (UROP)
  - **Cold Springs Harbor Lab (CSHL)** — open to International Students
    - Molecular Biology & Cancer, Genetics & Genomics, Neuroscience, Plant Biology, Quantitative Biology
    - Application deadline: mid January
Summer Research: beyond UChicago

Summer Research Opportunities: National

- Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)
  Programs or Summer Programs for Undergraduate Research (SPUR)
  - Multiple Academic Institutions: STEM but other disciplines may include: Education, Social and Behavioral Science, etc.

- Research Internships (STEM)
  - Department of Energy (DOE): Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships (SULI)
  - Fermilab Summer Internships in Science and Technology (SIST)
Summer Research: beyond UChicago

Summer Research Opportunities: National

• National Institutes
  
  • NIH: Summer Internship Program in Biomedical Research (SIP)
    • Behavioral, Social Sciences – STEM
    • US Citizens/Permanent Residents
  
  • National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)
    • Cutting-edge technology
    • 6 NIST facilities
Summer Research: beyond UChicago
Summer Research Opportunities: National/International

- **Amgen Scholars Program**
  - Science and Biotechnology
  - 13 U.S. Educational Institutions; 4 Asian Academic Institutions

- **DAAD Research Internships in Science and Technology (RISE)**
  - German University or Research Institute; Science and Engineering

- **ThinkSwiss Research Scholarship**
  - Public Swiss University of Research Institute
  - Students in all fields

*Check out our website for additional International Research Opportunities*
Summer Research: application process

• Reviewing Application systems
  • Unique vs. Centralized/Common applications

• Components (Required)
  • Biographical Information
  • Demographics (optional)

• Personal Statement (prompts vary)
  • Emphasize fit for opportunity
  • Connection to career goals
  • Skills/experience will gain
  • Preparation for opportunity
Summer Research: *application process*

- **Components (Required cont)**
  - Resume/CV
    - Academic background
    - Research Experience
    - Professional Experience
    - Extracurricular(s) – Activities, Service/Leadership
    - Skills
  - **Transcripts** (official or unofficial)
    - GPA & Coursework

Tip: Prepare your application materials, especially those statements, in advance!
Summer Research: *application process*

- Components (Required cont)
  - **Recommendation Letter(s)** – *typically due on application deadline!*
    - From current or intended summer Research Mentor
    - At least one from a Faculty in related discipline
    - Speak to fit for opportunity
    - Need for opportunity/funding
    - Potential benefits of experience
    - Maturity
    - Ability to succeed
    - Connection to career goals

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*The University of Chicago*
Summer Research: *application process*

- Components (other)
  - Research Interest Statement
    - Research Faculty and choose
    - Articulate interest in faculty project(s)
  - Optional Statement
    - Always utilize!
  - Research project(s) proposal/description
    - Developed with or without research mentor(s)
    - Needs to be accessible to general educated audience
      - Background, aims, methods, significance
Summer Research: application process

- Components (other cont)
  - Cover sheet/letter
  - Budget
  - Writing Sample
  - Interviews
  - Other funding sources

Tip: Have others read and review your statements and don’t forget to proofread and proofread again!
Summer Research: *Make the most!*

- Start off strong!
- Commit to research project/program
  - Be engaged – Attend all events (even optional)
- Communicate
  - Develop work/research plan; Expectations
  - Check-in and Ask questions
- Networking
  - Develop relationships
  - Plan to keep-in touch
- Incorporate hobbies, health and wellness activities
Summer Research: Make the most!

- Gain exposure!
  - Seek opportunities to learn and grow
  - Explore
    - Institution; City/Country; Resources
- Secure Recommendations
  - Ask for exit meeting
  - Discuss outcomes and future goals
  - Talk about continued contact
- Have fun!
- Thank your program staff and mentors
Summer Research: additional resources

- CCRF
  - Advising
  - Fellowships/Scholarships
    - Beckman Scholarships: Molecular Science
- Peers
- Mentors
- Advisors
  - Career Advancement
Summer Research: *additional resources*

- **Academic Institutions**
  - Websites: Summer Programs for External students

- **Research Institute/National Lab Websites**
  - Summer Research Internships, Grants or Programs

- **Society Sites**
  - American Physical Society (APS)

- **Federal Agencies**
  - National Endowment for the Humanities

- **Museums** – Office of Fellowships & Internships
Upcoming relevant CCRF Events:

• **Winter Quarter**
  • **Summer International Travel Grant (SITG) Writing Workshop**
    • Wed, Jan 13: 4-5pm
  • **Successful Research Proposals Series**
    • Literature Review; Searching and Finding Scholarly Sources; & Research Proposal

*And check for more winter and spring sessions!*

https://ccrf.uchicago.edu/information-sessions-workshops-and-series
Summer Research

Questions?
THANK YOU!

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Join our CCRF Listserv and find us on Facebook and Instagram!

A special thanks to those UChicago students that submitted research photos that appeared in this presentation.
Summer Research: *Let’s get started*

- Find 5-10 potential summer research opportunities
  - Determine participation dates
  - Locate deadline
  - Note eligibility criteria
  - Identify application requirements
- Consider who will write recommendations for you
- Develop timeline for applying or continued search