



REU Information Session

Mayra Amezcua

Friday, November 18th



What is REU?

- **R**esearch **E**xperience for **U**ndergraduates
- Paid summer research
- Sponsored by the Host Institution and the National Science Foundation
- Experience grad school



REU Program

- 10 Weeks of research
- \$5,000 stipend
- Housing and Travel (depends on program)
- Attend talks
- Work with graduate students, postdocs, and professors
- Networking or grad school opportunities
- Mentoring
- Give a final talk and submit a research report

Find a few REU programs

Step 1

How to find REUs?



reu 2017



All

News

Images

Shopping

Videos

More ▾

Search tools

About 406,000 results (0.38 seconds)

Search for an REU Site | NSF - National Science Foundation

https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu_search.cfm ▾

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU). REU Program Overview ... Search for an REU Site. Astronomical Sciences ... Search Clear. List all REU sites ...

REU Sites | NSF - National Science Foundation

https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/list_result.jsp?unitid=5047 ▾

139 items - REU Alumni: Please note the following opportunities: (1) Graduate Research ... Please report errors in the list below by writing to reu.bio@nsf.gov.

Research Experiences for Undergraduates | NSF - National Science ...

<https://www.nsf.gov/home/crssprgm/reu/> ▾

May 26, 2017. Fourth Friday in May, Annually Thereafter. Deadline for REU Site proposals requiring access to Antarctica. All other REU Site proposals must be ...



Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)

[REU Program Overview](#)

[Program Solicitation](#)

[Search for an REU Site](#)

[For Students](#)

[For Faculty](#)

[REU Contacts](#)

[REU Site Awards Guidelines for Reporting](#)

[Home](#)

[Email](#)

[Print](#)

[Share](#)

Search for an REU Site

[Astronomical Sciences](#)
[Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences](#)
[Biological Sciences](#)
[Chemistry](#)
[Computer and Information Science and Engineering](#)
[Cyberinfrastructure](#)
[Department of Defense \(DoD\)](#)
[Earth Sciences](#)
[Education and Human Resources](#)
[Engineering](#)
[Ethics and Values Studies](#)
[International Science and Engineering](#)
[Materials Research](#)
[Mathematical Sciences](#)
[Ocean Sciences](#)
[Physics](#)
[Polar Programs](#)
[Small Business Innovation Research \(SBIR\)](#)
[Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences](#)

SEARCH BY RESEARCH AREAS/KEYWORDS:

Enter full or partial research areas/keywords separated by commas:
(e.g. geophysics, ecology, nano, robot, ethics)

And/Or State:

Search

Clear

[List all REU sites](#)

Site Information	Site Location	Contact Information	Additional Information
Alabama A&M University Physics REU at AAMU Department of Physics	Normal, Alabama	Primary: Dr. Padjama Guggila (256) 372-8141 padmaja.guggilla@aamu.edu	Research Topics/Keywords: Materials Science, Optics and Space Science Abstract of Award Cofunded: Materials Research
Baylor University Baylor University (CASPER) REU/RET Site Proposal Physics	Waco, Texas	Primary: Truell Hyde (254) 710-6717 Truell_Hyde@baylor.edu	Research Topics/Keywords: Astrophysics, Plasma, Particle, Quantum Space, Superstring and Surface Physics Comments: RET component Abstract of Award
Black Hills State University REU Site: Multidisciplinary Underground Science at the Sanford Underground Research Facility Department of Natural Sciences	Spearfish, South Dakota	Primary: Dr. Brianna Mount (605) 642-6094 Brianna.mount@bhsu.edu	Research Topics/Keywords: Physics, Biology, Chemistry and Underground Science Abstract of Award
Brigham Young University REU Site: Physics Research at Brigham Young University Department of Physics and Astronomy	Provo, Utah	Primary: Professor R. Steve Turley (801) 422-3095 reu@byu.edu	Research Topics/Keywords: Atomic Physics, Condensed Matter, Visible Astronomy, Acoustics, Ultrafast Nonlinear Optics, Computational & Experimental Plasma Physics, Extreme Ultraviolet Optics, Surface Physics, Electron Microscopy Comments: RET component is funded. Abstract of Award Cofunded: Materials Research
California Institute of Technology REU Site: Gravitational-Wave Astrophysics in the LIGO Project LIGO-PMA	Pasadena, California	Primary: Professor Alan J. Weinstein (626) 395-2216 ajw@ligo.caltech.edu	Research Topics/Keywords: Gravitational radiation from astrophysical sources, including precision measurements, laser interferometry, optical systems, electronics, servo controls, complex mechanical systems, environmental monitoring Abstract of Award
Coe College REU Site: Spectroscopy at Coe College Departments of Physics	Cedar Rapids, Iowa	Primary: Ms. Susan Noreuil (319) 399-8524 snoreuil@coe.edu	Research Topics/Keywords: Physics and Chemistry, Optics, Glass Science, Acoustics, Molecular Biology, Modeling and Biomaterials Comments: RET Component Abstract of Award





Deciding Where to Apply

Step 2



Things to think about

- **What kind of work do you want to do?**
 - Theory or Experimental or Computational
- **What areas interest you the most?**
 - Materials, High Energy. Optics, Biophysics...etc.
- **What courses have you taken or will take that can help your application?**
- **Where do you want to go?**
 - East Coast, West Coast, South, Midwest?



Research!

Research!

Research!

It will be helpful to know who you want to work with from each program so you can tie it into your personal statement.

The Application

Step 3



Before the Application

- Check eligibility
- Review projects and mentors to identify your preferences and interests
- Secure 2-3 faculty recommenders (email in advance!!!!)
- Prepare transcript and CV/resume



Eligibility

- Must be an undergraduate student*
- US citizen or permanent resident
- See any special requirements based on the program

*Seniors may not be eligible



Gentle Reminder

Read through the
entire application
before applying!



Online Form

- Contact information
- Education information
 - Course hours
 - GPA
 - Course list
- References
 - Need professors' email
- Candidate Statement**

Identification and Contact Information

NAME OF APPLICANT

First	<input type="text"/>
Middle	<input type="text"/> optional
Last	<input type="text"/>
Suffix	<input type="text" value="[no generational suffix]"/> optional

DATE OF BIRTH

Month	<input type="text" value="[select month]"/>
Day	<input type="text" value="[select day]"/>
Year	<input type="text" value="[select year]"/>

PRIMARY CONTACTS

Phone	<input type="text" value="###-###-####"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>

Submitting this form triggers a confirmation email summarizing your form data, so be sure the address you type is really yours.

MAILING ADDRESS

Line 1	<input type="text"/>
Line 2	<input type="text"/>
City	<input type="text"/>
State/Terr.	<input type="text" value="[select]"/>
Zip Code	<input type="text" value="##### or #####-####"/>
Country	<input type="text" value="United States"/>

Faculty Submitting Recommendations

Valid email addresses are essential for your [faculty recommendations](#).

- .edu email addresses strongly preferred.
- If you give invalid addresses, your recommenders will not receive the email messages that would enable them to recommend you.
- Recommendations must be completed by the specified recommenders; applicants may not submit their own recommendations.
 - Example: If you name Dr. John Doe as Recommender 1, your application will be considered dishonest if the email address you provide for Recommender 1 belongs to anyone other than Dr. John Doe or your Recommendation 1 is submitted by anyone other than Dr. John Doe.

FERPA

Under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, you have the right to view these recommendations in your file at Nebraska. Do you choose to waive that right?

- ☒ Yes, I waive my right of access to these recommendations.
- ☐ No, I retain my right of access to these recommendations.

Note that some faculty prefer to write recommendations (even very positive ones) only for students who waive this right of access.

RECOMMENDER 1

Title	<input type="text" value="[select]"/>
First Name	<input type="text"/>
Middle Name	<input type="text"/> optional
Last Name	<input type="text"/>
Suffix	<input type="text" value="[no generational suffix]"/>

Recommender's current employment

RECOMMENDER 2

Title	<input type="text" value="[select]"/>
First Name	<input type="text"/>
Middle Name	<input type="text"/> optional
Last Name	<input type="text"/>
Suffix	<input type="text" value="[no generational suffix]"/>

Recommender's current employment

<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>

Summer Research Preference

You will be considered only for the programs you rank. See [Program and project descriptions](#) for details.

MRSEC applicants: Consult MRSEC for instructions, and complete this form only if also applying for additional programs.

#1 program choice (required):

Make a selection above and options will appear here.

#2 program choice (optional):

Make a selection above and options will appear here.

#3 program choice (optional):

Make a selection above and options will appear here.



Candidate Statement/Short Answer Section

- Opportunity to provide faculty with information about your
 - research experience
 - personal strengths
 - educational goals.
- Chance to explain anything that wasn't addressed in other sections
 - Academic deficiencies

Tell them why you are the ideal candidate!

A large, light green feather graphic is positioned on the left side of the slide, extending from the bottom towards the top. It has a central rachis with many fine, radiating barbs.

Transcripts

- Email or mail
- Request a copy from the registrar to scan and send in
- Screenshots not acceptable

****Transcripts can take a day or two so make sure to request it well in advance!**



Faculty Recommendations

- Pick 2-3 professors that know you well!
- Email professors **at least 3 weeks** in advance
- Who is responsible for turning in the recommendations?
 - Faculty or will the program contact them
- Check whether they need to fill out any additional forms
- Professors are busy so send them gentle reminders

A decorative graphic of a feather, rendered in a light beige or tan color, is positioned on the left side of the slide. It has a central rachis with numerous barbs extending outwards, giving it a soft, organic appearance.

Deadlines

- Make sure you know when the application is due!
- Try to apply before the last day to avoid any site issues.

The Waiting Game

Step 4


- Check the website!
- Respond to any requests ASAP!!
- You may not hear back from programs so you can always email the contact person.
- If you don't hear anything by April start looking for other summer opportunities.



Final Thoughts to Keep in Mind When Applying



From University of Nebraska-Lincoln



Reviewers look for applicants who:

- Have a passion for the discipline
- Show an interest in earning an advanced degree
- Bring diverse talents and skills to the research team



Strong Applications Include:

- Evidence of high academic achievement and preparation
- Evidence of teamwork and independent problem-solving skills
- Faculty recs from those who can speak about academic performance
- Materials that are well written and free of error