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OUTLINE

- **Definition**
- **Why**
- **Who**
- **What**
- **When**
- **Where**
- **How**

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH



An inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student under supervision of a faculty mentor or supervisor that makes an original, intellectual, or creative contribution to the discipline ...

(adapted from the Council on Undergraduate Research)

WHY SHOULD I PARTICIPATE IN A STUDENT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE?

Participation in undergraduate research benefits students educationally, professionally, and personally.

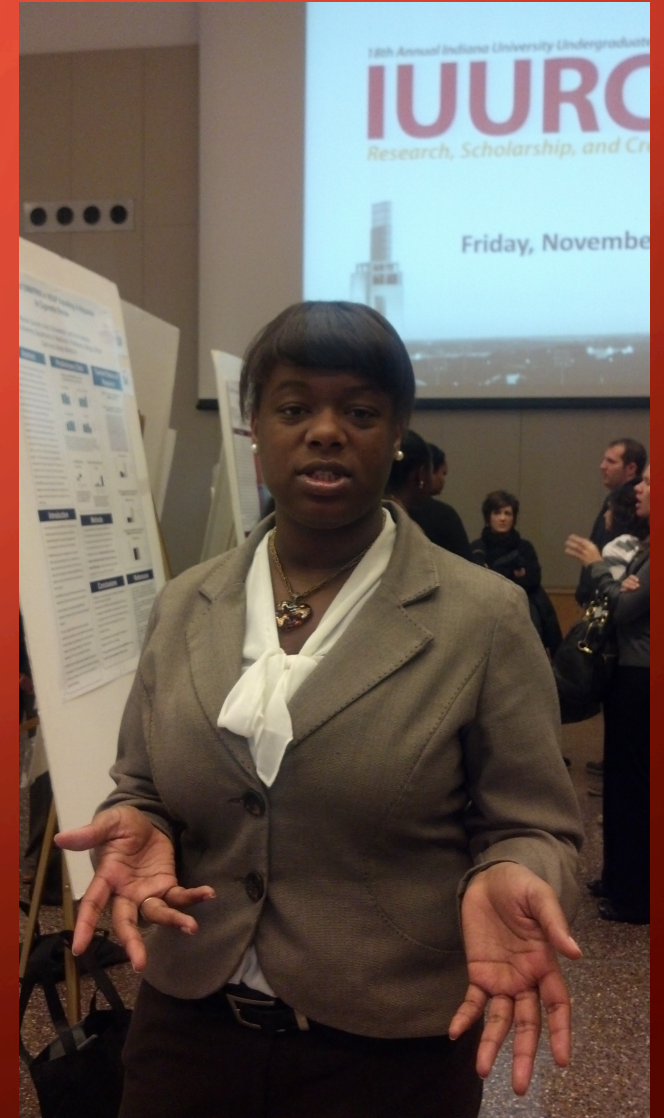


WHO PARTICIPATES IN STUDENT RESEARCH EXPERIENCES?

Open to all undergraduate students wanting to:

- *Build their academic foundation.*
- *Get hands-on experience in the field.*
- *Explore fields of interest.*
- *Make valuable connections with faculty.*
- *Enjoy travel, new friends, and fun!*
- *A stepping stone to graduate school.*

(from [Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates](#), Institute for Broadening Participation)



WHAT DO FACULTY-MENTORED RESEARCH EXPERIENCES LOOK LIKE?

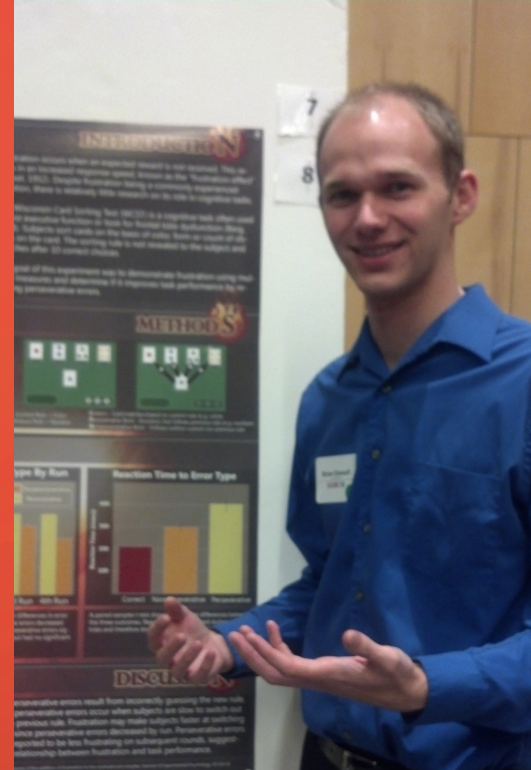
Students are paired with a faculty mentor in order to work on a project for 8-10 weeks over the summer; or, for an academic year program.



Summer research programs often provide stipend; housing; meals; conference travel, campus-based educational enrichment activities to broaden view of graduate education and research; along with strengthening technical skills. These activities tend to include: GRE test preparation; luncheons with faculty; workshops and seminars; symposium or poster presentations.

WHERE WOULD I CONDUCT MY RESEARCH?

Some research programs are campus based, others are hosted at national research laboratories or agencies, while others are conducted in the field including international project sites ...



WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES?

Pathways to Science is a project of the Institute for Broadening Participation (IBP) that provides information for nearly 2,000 programs in a variety of disciplines and education levels.

Funding provided by



STEM Resources by Institution

Find programs, contacts and other resources associated

Three Ways to Search

1. Browse all Institutions

2. Choose a single institution from the box below

Aaniiih Nakoda College
Abisko Scientific Research Station (ANS)
Academia Sinica
Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia
Acadia Institute of Oceanography
Acadia National Park
Adams State College
Agnes Scott College
Alabama A&M University
Alabama State University

3. Search by Geography

Use the map below, or select from dropdowns



Pacific West

Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington

Mountain West

HOW DO I APPLY?

Applications typically require that students:

1. Be in good academic standing (3.0 GPA or higher)
2. Submit the following:
 - Online application form,
 - Academic transcript,
 - Personal statement (approx.1 000 words),
 - Summary of prior research, if any (approx.1 000 words),
 - Two letters of recommendation from faculty,
 - Paragraph (500 words or less) summarizing their interest in the discipline or project

WHEN SHOULD I PARTICIPATE IN A STUDENT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE?

It takes time and effort to search for, select and apply to programs you are interested in – and it's time and effort that has to fit in around all your other schoolwork!

Depending on the funding source, most undergraduates participate in a research program as rising sophomores, juniors and seniors. Many first year experiences programs offer a research component.

SUGGESTED TIMELINE

SUMMER / EARLY FALL	FALL	EARLY TO MID WINTER	MID TO LATE WINTER	SPRING	EARLY SUMMER
Get organized	Search for programs	Make final selection of programs to apply	Make use of winter break to work on applications	Wait on offers	Receive and read program materials
Begin drafting cover letter and personal statement	Note deadlines, requirements and contacts	Request letters of recommendation	Follow up with recommenders	Consider offers	Sign and return program forms
Discuss potential experience with family	Identify and talk with potential recommenders	Polish and re-polish essays and cover letter	Complete and submit applications!	Select and respond to offer	Touch base with recommenders

(From Summer Research Experiences for Undergraduates, Institute for Broadening Participation)

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the Institute for Broadening Participation's (IBP) Pathways to Science site at

<http://www.pathwaystoscience.org/>