

How To Find Funded Summer Research

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What do we mean by “undergraduate research”?

- **Design, Create, Discover**
 - Faculty supervision
 - Research in labs
 - Creative design activities
 - Scholarly studies
- **Goes beyond the classroom**
 - Active learning
 - Not just lab coats



Why Do Research

- ▶ *Educational Benefits Include:*
- ▶ Working closely with a faculty mentor
- ▶ Learning about issues, methods, and leaders in students' chosen fields
- ▶ Applying concepts learned in coursework to "real life" situations
- ▶ Sharpening problem-solving skills
- ▶ Learn to read primary literature

Why Do Research

- ▶ *Professional Benefits Include:*
- ▶ Exploring and preparing for future careers
- ▶ Developing marketable skills
- ▶ Enhancing professional communication skills
- ▶ Collaborating with others and working effectively as part of a team

Why Do Research

- ▶ *Personal Benefits Include:*
- ▶ Growing as a critical, analytical, and independent thinker
- ▶ Meeting challenges and demonstrating the ability to complete a project
- ▶ Discovering personal interests
- ▶ Developing internal standards of excellence

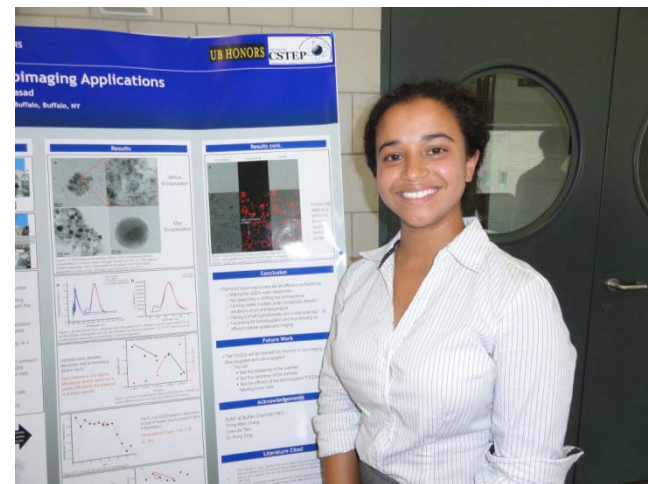
How Do You Find An On Campus Research Position?

- ▶ Talk to professors
- ▶ Honorable Mention
- ▶ Talk with other people in departments
- ▶ Explore the "Research opportunities" section of the Centre for Undergraduate Research and [Creative Activities \(CURCA\)](#) website
- ▶ Attend or participate in the Celebration of Academic Excellence – April 12th 12:00 CFA
- ▶ Apply for Honors College Research and Creativity Funding
- ▶ Register for a research-oriented course

UB Summer Research Opportunities

- ▶ **ADHD Summer Treatment Program**
 - Summit Educational
- ▶ **Hauptman–Woodward Medical Research Institute Summer Program**

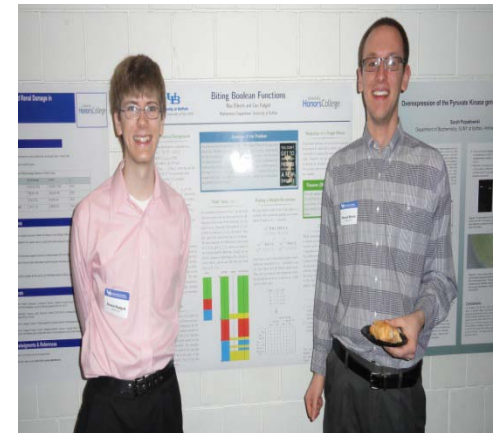
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UB Summer Research Opportunities

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- ▶ [Roswell Park Cancer Institute Summer Program](#)
- ▶ [The CLIMB UP for Summer Research at UB](#)
- ▶ [Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies in Biomedical Sciences](#)
- ▶ [ERIE IGERT REU](#)



UB Summer Programs

- ▶ <http://cpmc.buffalo.edu/cstep.html>
- ▶ Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP)
 - Shanna Crump–Owens, Director
222 Norton Hall, 645–2002
 - sicrump@buffalo.edu
- ▶ LSAMP (Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation)
 - Dr. Letitia Thomas
 - 255 Capen Hall, 645–7301
 - lthomas@buffalo.edu
- ▶ McNair Scholars Program
 - Dr. Susan Ott, Director
 - 220 Norton Hall, 645–5478
 - sjott@buffalo.edu



Externally Funded Research Opportunities

- ▶ [National Science Foundation– Research Experiences for Undergraduates \(REU\)](#) -
- ▶ [Institute for Broadening Participation](#)
- ▶ Astronomical Sciences
- ▶ Atmospheric Sciences
- ▶ Biological Sciences
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Computer and Information Science and Engineering
- ▶ 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
- ▶ Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

Federally Funded

- ▶ National Science Foundation
- ▶ [National Institutes of Health](#)
- ▶ [NASA](#)
- ▶ Department of Defense
- ▶ Department of Homeland Security
- ▶ [Naval Research](#)
- ▶ [ORISE](#)



NASA

- ▶ Many NASA labs have openings, most are due January 31
- ▶ <http://intern.nasa.gov/>

Department of Energy

- ▶ Look at the labs:
 - Sandia National Laboratory
 - Idaho National Laboratory
 - Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
 - Los Alamos National Laboratory
 - Argonne National Laboratory
- ▶ • <http://orise.orau.gov/doescholars/application/default.htm>

How Can I Find an Experience?

- ▶ [PIVOT](#)
- ▶ <http://fundingopps.cos.com>
- ▶ www.science.gov/internships
- ▶ <http://www.webguru.neu.edu/>
- ▶ <http://www.apa.org/science/undergradopps.html>
- ▶ <http://www.pathwaystoscience.org/Undergrads.asp>

Tips for a Successful Application

- ▶ Get organized!
- ▶ Follow directions and pay attention to the guidelines (especially deadlines)
- ▶ Demonstrate strong writing skills
- ▶ Your application reflects care (attention to detail, editing, completeness) (For tips and assistance with writing, check out UB's Writing Place <http://tlc.buffalo.edu/lcwrite.htm>)
- ▶ Focus your personal statement (reveal your interest in and motivation for research)
- ▶ Have strong letters of reference (be sure to contact references early and provide them with your information)
- ▶ Your application reflects your interest in the field of research
- ▶ Your professional goals are in line with program guidelines



What should be in statements of purpose?

- ▶ Why you want to do research in general
- ▶ Why these projects? What's interesting in them to you?
- ▶ What's your background (give context for why you are interested).
- ▶ Do NOT cut and paste from their website, or give generic platitudes about how wonderful they or you are.

Where to get help:



- ▶ Fellowship website
www.fellowships.buffalo.edu



Letters of Recommendation

- ▶ Faculty over TA's
- ▶ Ask EARLY
- ▶ Provide a list of the programs, what you find interesting at the REU and a copy of your resume.

Time Line for Summer Research

- ▶ November – applications become available
- ▶ Winter Break – research, visit, prepare
- ▶ February – applications due
- ▶ May – August – 7–10 week experience

Pay/Stipend/Travel/\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

- ▶ Stipends \$1,000–\$6,000
- ▶ Room/board/travel
- ▶ Conference presentation

- ▶ Wonderful experience for graduate school admission



Questions?



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