

Summer Undergraduate Research Program (SURF) Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible for the program?

U. S Citizens, Permanent Residents and AB540 eligible.

What do I need to apply to the program?

The program application requirements are a completed application (available via Google forms), personal history statement, unofficial transcript, and one letter of recommendation.

Where should my letter of recommendation be sent to?

Your letter of recommendation should be emailed to diversity@rgs.uci.edu with both the letter of recommendation form and the letter of recommendation written in a university letterhead.

Does the program pay for housing?

Yes, the program includes on-campus housing for the duration of the program.

What time of day do workshops take place?

Most of the workshops are scheduled in the morning so students have the afternoon to focus on research. GRE workshops may take place in the evenings.

How many hours of research am I expected to conduct during the summer?

Varies. This can range between 35-40 hours per week.

Can I work part time during the summer program?

The goal of the program is to have you conduct full time research. Our students are required to participate in research 35-40 hours per week.

Can faculty outside my home institution write a letter of recommendation on my behalf?

Yes as long as they are faculty and can speak to your qualifications, academic success and potential for research.

Am I assigned a faculty mentor for the summer program?

Students are responsible for securing their own faculty mentor for the summer whose research interests are aligned to their own. Students focus on finding a mentor after they've been accepted into the summer program. Students contact the faculty at UCI to ask about research opportunities for the summer and then take it from there.

Information on UCI Faculty can be found here: <https://www.faculty.uci.edu/>