Research Resources

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs)

The National Science Foundation funds a large number of research opportunities for undergraduate students through its REU program. An REU Site consists of a group of undergraduates who work in the research programs of the host institution. Each student is associated with a specific research project, where he/she works closely with graduate students, the faculty and other researchers. Students are granted stipends and, in many cases, assistance with housing and travel. Undergraduate students supported with NSF funds must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or its possessions.

On the REU web page you can search by keywords to find program sites in particular research areas or locations. Students need to visit individual sites for information and application materials. NSF does not have application materials and does not select student participants. Contact information is listed for each site.

Note deadlines and requirements. Applications are typically due between February and March and application requirements usually include one or two letters of recommendation from faculty. When asking faculty for letters of recommendation it is helpful to send them a description of the program you’re applying to, as well as your resume, all well in advance of the deadline.

Pathways to Science

Pathways to Science is a project of the Institute for Broadening Participation (IBP). Pathways to Science supports pathways to the STEM fields: science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. They place particular emphasis on connecting underrepresented groups with STEM programs, funding, mentoring and resources. Use this website to find programs such as undergraduate summer research opportunities, graduate fellowships, and postdoctoral positions.

On Campus Research:

Many professors on campus conduct research, and some are willing to take undergraduate students into their lab. These can be either paid or unpaid positions, depending on the available funding of the faculty. The best way to find these positions is to research the types of work the faculty are doing through the UMass departmental websites. Then, contact that faculty and express your interest in his/her research area.