

SURP Program

Program Overview:



Office of
Undergraduate Research
UNIVERSITY of WEST FLORIDA

The Summer Undergraduate Research Program allows students to fully invest in the research experience for the summer semester. The SURP Program involves faculty and student collaboration in original research that should result in some tangible product (i.e., publication, presentation, etc.), but its most valuable contribution is the development of the student in ways not possible in traditional classroom settings. To maximize the SURP experience, student participants are expected to work 20-25 hours per week on their designated research project and are paid an hourly wage (up to a total of \$2,500) for their participation. Students can also request up to \$500 for the purchase of materials and supplies related to conducting their research project.

Eligibility and Dates:

To qualify for the SURP program, the student research must be mentored by a UWF faculty member. Current undergraduate, degree seeking students who are in good standing with the University are eligible to apply. Applications for the SURP program are typically due the Friday before spring break every year.

Program Goals:

- Provide support for undergrad student research
- Build strong, long-lasting relationships between students and faculty
- Build research skills that can be utilized and strengthened throughout degree plan and career

Expectations of Participants:

What is Required for a SURP Application?

1. Letter of Interest (1 page)
2. Project Description (1 page)
3. Project Budget, including a summary table and a supporting description of budget items
4. Project Timeline
5. Resume or CV
6. UWF transcript (unofficial copy)
7. Mentor statement (mentor will upload directly)

Students who receive a SURP Award are expected to complete the research project described in the approved proposal by the end of the summer semester in which the award is made. Students are also expected to meet the following requirements:

- **Make consistent progress toward your research project until its completion.** Students who fail to make consistent progress toward their research projects may forfeit all or part of their research funding. Final research project shall be completed to the satisfaction of the faculty mentor.
- **Present a research poster at the SURP Symposium.** Students should prepare a research poster and present it at the SURP Symposium, typically held the last Friday of the summer semester.
- **Attend professional development workshops.** Students will attend workshops hosted by OUR throughout the summer program focused on topics such as resume writing, presenting your research, networking, etc.
- **Complete an end of program survey.** Surveys will include a copy of a research poster from the SURP Symposium as well as additional questions on the impact of the research experience.
- **Submit a final research report (at the discretion of the faculty mentor).** Reports will be required at the discretion of the faculty mentor, and should include written summaries of the research project
- **Enroll in a maximum of one course during SURP.** In order to focus on the research experience, students may only take one course while participating in the SURP program

First Steps:

Students should identify a faculty member who is willing to mentor his/her research project. You should discuss possible research topics and expectations to make sure this will be a good match for both the student and the mentor, before developing a more detailed plan. Please don't hesitate to contact OUR if you have any questions or concerns.