

SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (SURE) FACULTY RESEARCH MENTOR FACT SHEET

SURE is for undergraduate students interested in graduate school and research/creative work within their discipline or a related discipline. Students potentially interested in research as a career are especially encouraged to apply. Selected participants complete research at West Virginia University for 8 weeks (average of 40 hours per week or 320 hours over the course of 8 weeks) during the summer under the direction of a WVU faculty research mentor and a graduate or post-doctoral mentor.

SURE Participant Details:

- The SURE program is open to all majors at WVU, including creative arts, humanities, social sciences and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) majors.
- To be eligible, student applicants must be:
 1. College sophomores, juniors, or seniors as of the fall semester following their participation in the SURE summer program.
 2. Enrolled at a West Virginia higher education institution or be a West Virginia State resident enrolled at an out-of-state college or university.
- If selected, SURE participants will receive a **\$5000** award for their 8 weeks of full-time research. The SURE program does not provide funding for the faculty mentor. It is assumed that the SURE participant will be integrated into an already funded project within the faculty mentor's research space.
- All SURE participants will be registered for a one-credit hour research class that will run for the duration of the program. This course will include online assignments as well as attendance at periodic workshops and seminars. All SURE participants are required to pay the tuition and fees associated with this one-credit hour research class.
- The program typically begins in the final week of May and concludes in the last week of July. Exact dates will be announced when applications open. Participants are required to research full-time for at least 8 TOTAL WEEKS during the 9-week program. The actual dates of research within the 9-week period do not matter (*i.e.*, if you or your SURE participant need to take time off in the middle of July, that is perfectly acceptable) as long as participants (i) carry out research for 8 weeks within that time period and (ii) are present for the first day of the program and during the last week of the program.

SURE

c/o Office of Undergraduate Research • Eiesland Hall, second floor, 128 Hough St., PO Box 6702,
Morgantown, WV 26505

Questions? SURE@mail.wvu.edu

- The SURE program begins with one day of orientation, which is **mandatory for participants.**
- The SURE program “officially” ends the day after the culminating research presentation at the Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium. Family, friends, faculty research mentor, graduate students, postdocs etc. are invited to the symposium. **Symposium participation and attendance is mandatory for SURE participants.**
- SURE participants will need to find their own place to live in or near Morgantown. However, a limited amount of dorm room space is available.
- SURE participants will not be allowed to have another job or take summer classes (besides the one-credit hour research class) while they are taking part in the SURE research experience.

Faculty Mentor Responsibilities:

- Faculty mentor letter of support: Student applicants are required to provide a letter of support from a faculty mentor. Letters are due when applications close.
- The SURE faculty research mentor or, at times, responsible designee (graduate or postdoc) should be available for the full duration of the program. In addition, it is the responsibility of the SURE faculty research mentor to ensure that the SURE participant receives any required/mandatory training involving safety, confidentiality, or running of instrumentation prior to beginning the SURE research.
- The SURE participant would be integrated fully into the faculty research mentor's group and that the SURE participant would work closely with the faculty mentor or designee of the faculty mentor (graduate student or postdoc) on an authentic research project. It is expected that the SURE participant would move from research dependence toward research independence over the course of the 8-week program.
- Faculty mentor and/or a secondary mentor designee will be responsible for reviewing biweekly progress reports and to report any discrepancies to the Office of Undergraduate Research.
- The SURE participant should be available for weekly or biweekly SURE workshops covering various topics pertaining to professional development. SURE participants are required to attend a certain number of events. Each SURE participant must submit an abstract, create a research presentation, and present it at the Summer Undergraduate Research Symposium. The symposium date is posted on the Office of Undergraduate Research website.

SURE

c/o Office of Undergraduate Research • Eiesland Hall, second floor, 128 Hough St., PO Box 6702,
Morgantown, WV 26505

Questions? SURE@mail.wvu.edu



Funding for the WVU SURE Site is typically obtained, in part, from:

- West Virginia Research Challenge Fund through a grant from the Division of Science and Research, Higher Education Policy Commission;
- WVU Colleges of Creative Arts; Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design; Eberly College of Arts and Sciences; Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources; Health Sciences Center
- WVU Provost's Office and Research Corporation along with administrative resources from the Office of Undergraduate Research and Honors College.
- WVU Foundation

SURE

c/o Office of Undergraduate Research • Eiesland Hall, second floor, 128 Hough St., PO Box 6702,
Morgantown, WV 26505

Questions? SURE@mail.wvu.edu