Summer Research
Applying and Getting In

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What are summer research experiences?

- Work on a research project at host institution
- Gain experience
- Meet more mentors where you may go to grad school
- Get GRE training
- They pay you!!!
  - Stipend
  - Housing?
  - Travel?
Timeline

**Fall** Find
- Spreadsheet
- Letters of recommendation
- Grades
- Order transcripts

**Winter** Apply
- Due dates: Dec-March

**Spring** Get accepted
- Housing
- Travel
- Paperwork
- Placement
- Check email daily
Finding the internship

- Don’t be afraid to take risks!
- Make a spreadsheet of 5-10 programs – more is okay since apps are usually similar
- Keep open-minded and realistic about location
- Explore research outside your major – interdisciplinary
### Summer Programs Spreadsheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name and Institution</th>
<th>Program Dates</th>
<th>Application Requirements</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Letters of Rec How many, how to submit</th>
<th>Online or paper?</th>
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Applying

+ Letters of recommendation (2)
Personal statement
Transcripts (check if they need official or not)
CV
Contact program coordinator directly with questions
Don’t sell yourself short!
Don’ts

Miss the deadlines

Loose communication with coordinators and faculty

Misspell things in your app

Wait until the last minute to apply

Miss the opportunity to do research
What they’re looking for

- Confidence (not cockiness)
- Ability to articulate future goals
- Future researchers-DESIRE!
- Good grades and strong letters of recommendation (but not just those things)
- To see that you will benefit from their program
Do
Plan ahead
Get help with your application (proof read, etc.)
Stay open-minded
Say “yes”
Apply anyway
Be realistic
Personal Statements

- Answer all parts of questions.
- Read prompt carefully
- Proofread (probably about 4 drafts)
- Research experiences and interests
- Poor grades
- Focus on your goals
- http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/642/2/
Letters of Rec

- Visit office hours
- Give plenty of time (4wks is best)
- Be gracious
- Send reminders (at 1wk and day before)
- Make their job easy: Make them a spreadsheet, self-addressed envelope, bullets about yourself
- Send thank you note (handwritten) and share results
- Faculty vs. staff letters
CV

- Your Name and Contact on the top

- Headings:

- Education: Include your major here and expected date of graduation

- Related Skills: Include any research skills: Lab techniques, programming: matlab, Java?

- Familiar vs. proficient vs. experienced levels

- Related jobs only

- More than 1 page is okay
### Questions to ask the coordinators

#### Before Applying
- Ask about quarter system dates
- Clarify any questions about the application process.
  - Where do you send letters of rec? Directly (web) or with your app
  - Personal statement prompt
  - Class requirements
  - Do they need official or unofficial transcripts?

#### Once you are in
- Clarify housing and travel. Will they book it for you? Will they provide housing or pay you a separate stipend for it?
- What do they expect you to bring? (sheets, towels, cooking utensils, money, etc.)
- Clarify reimbursement procedure
If you don’t get in

+ • You are not alone
  • Call or email and ask for clarification so you can improve for next year’s application
  • Take summer school courses and do well to increase your chances next year.
  • Volunteer on campus, if possible
Our Summer Programs

• Combined application for IMSD, MARC, UC LEADS and CAMP

• Apply to us and if you get in somewhere else AND with us, we will save you a spot for fall.

• Positions for all STEM disciplines

• Eight-week training institute for Biomedical majors OR 8-week summer research experience

• Get involved now through RAD and SACNAS Student Chapter

**Application DEADLINE FEBRUARY 8th, 2013**

We will extend the deadline on a case by case basis for transfers students so contact us!
Useful Places to Look

- University Advising offices
- Society websites (AAMC, ASCB, ASM, etc.)
- Organization websites (CIC, Leadership Alliance)
- Government agency websites (NIH, NSF, CDC)
- Individual schools and program websites, Career Center
- Booths at national meetings (ABRACMS, SACNAS, regional McNair Conferences, etc.)
- Advertisements in professional journals
- List of REU sits funded by NSF

http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu_search.cfm

- Math REUs http://www.ams.org/programs/students/undergrad/emp-reu

- Our website on internships http://marcmbrs.ucsc.edu/internships.html