

# SUPPORT FOR GRANT WRITERS

The purpose of this page is to provide information of relevance to grant writers at the University of Utah and to encourage all investigators to involve undergraduate student researchers in their proposals. Here are some ways to include undergraduate researchers:

- **Write undergraduate student researchers into your proposal.** Learn more about returned overhead on undergraduate salaries.
- **If your research is funded by the NSF, consider requesting an REU supplement.** Learn about REU supplements here.
- **Request letters of institutional support.** If you wish to reference the resources offered by our office in your grant proposals, please consider using the following prepared text. To request a letter of institutional support, please send Dr. Annie Isabel Fukushima copy of the portion of your proposal containing the relevant text and a draft letter of institutional support.
  - **General OUR:** The Office of Undergraduate Research at the University of Utah offers research grants, travel grants, and the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP), which provides undergraduate students the chance to collaborate with faculty members on cutting-edge research. Students get first-hand experience with research proposals, funding, and presentations, giving students a head start toward working in the research field of their choice. We also offer a transcript designation—the Undergraduate Student Research Designation (URSD)—to officially recognize students who have devoted themselves to research as an undergraduate at the U.
  - **Summer Program for Undergraduate Research (SPUR):** The Office of Undergraduate Research at the University of Utah offers the Summer Program for Undergraduate Research (SPUR). The purpose of SPUR is to provide undergraduate students an intensive 10-week research experience under the mentorship of a University of Utah faculty member. The program emphasizes a collaborative research experience with a focus on a high-quality mentoring relationship. Faculty mentor bios and project descriptions are advertised, and students select one or more projects at the time of application. The selection committee then considers the research interests and backgrounds of the students, in addition to the suitability of the potential mentoring relationship, when making admissions decisions. Throughout the program, students have access to Office of Undergraduate Research staff, including our undergraduate research advisor and peer mentors. The program also emphasizes a cohort experience via welcome and closing receptions, peer advising, weekly education events, bi-weekly program meetings, and optional on-campus housing.