UROP Curiosity Lab

Exploring Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunities

Updated: November 2026

Agenda

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- Arts & Humanities
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Overview

Summer is a vibrant time for undergraduate research with many opportunities to gain experience and funding. And most programs provide funding to accepted participants!

Details:

https://www.colorado.edu/urop/exploring/curiosity-lab/self-paced-resources/engage/beyond-boulder/summer-programs

Timeline

With deadlines mostly in January and February, the Fall term is a good time to start looking at opportunities for summer and find the best fit for you.

- Pay attention to the program deadlines, which vary, and mark your calendar to stay on track.
- Start your search as early as possible. Putting together compelling applications with strong recommendation letters can take time.

Key Considerations

Keep in mind that some programs offer entry-level positions while others are seeking students with more experience.

Be sure to connect your goals with the details of the programs and highlight how participation will help you with next steps.

Details:

https://www.colorado.edu/urop/exploring/curiosity-lab/self-paced-resources/engage/beyond-boulder

Beyond Boulder

Many programs are intended to help students fill gaps by providing opportunities in areas students might not have on their home campus. You can make a compelling case in your applications by highlighting how programs provide experiences not available at CU Boulder.

NSF’s REU Program

National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates (NSF REU) directory provides the website and contact information for each REU Site. Once you have found an REU Site that interests you, you must consult each REU Site directly for information and application instructions.

Details:

https://www.nsf.gov/funding/initiatives/reu/search

ETAP

The NSF Education and Training Application (ETAP) is an easy way to discover and apply to Opportunities, and the system functions like a common application for many REUs.

Details:

https://etap.nsf.gov

STEM Databases

Cientifico Latino

https://www.cientificolatino.com/reu

Zintellect

https://www.zintellect.com/

Pathways to Science

https://www.pathwaystoscience.org/programs.aspx

Illinois Office of Undergraduate Research

https://researchops.web.illinois.edu/

Princeton Engineering

https://engineering.princeton.edu/undergraduate-studies/summer-research-experiences

UROP's LinkedIn Group

Opportunities are regularly posted to UROP's LinkedIn Group.

Details:

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12274488/

Pre-Health Pathways

If you're considering postgrad education, such as medical school, you might look for programs hosted at institutions you're considering. You can learn about the school, location, and even make connections to assist your application in the future. If you're planning to spend your summer away, explore options hosted at institutions near home.

Details:

https://www.colorado.edu/urop/exploring/curiosity-lab/self-paced-resources/engage/beyond-boulder/pre-health-pathways

Pre-Health Advising

CU Boulder's Office of Pre-Health Advising (OPHA) offers resources and expert staff who know each profession's pathway and all of the alternative routes.

Details:

https://www.colorado.edu/programs/prehealth-advising/

Arts & Humanities

Places to look for opportunities:

- Databases & Lists
- Council on Undergrad. Research
- Programs
- Institutes & Centers
- Libraries & Museums
- Professional Organizations

Details:

https://www.colorado.edu/urop/exploring/curiosity-lab/self-paced-resources/engage/beyond-boulder/arts-humanities

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Opportunities Abroad

Engaging in research abroad can be an exciting way to travel and meet the global research community. In addition to research-oriented options, we included resources compiled by Career Services to highlight other experiential learning opportunities abroad from volunteer work to internships.

Details:

https://www.colorado.edu/urop/exploring/curiosity-lab/self-paced-resources/engage/beyond-boulder/experiential-learning-abroad

Education Abroad

EA administers hundreds of study abroad programs including faculty-led, internships, research, and field study programs in more than 60 countries around the world. EA has established relationships with programs that provide research opportunities abroad.

Details:

https://abroad.colorado.edu/

Resources

UROP's Index of Opportunities Beyond Boulder

https://www.colorado.edu/urop/exploring/curiosity-lab/self-paced-resources/engage/beyond-boulder

UROP's List of Pathways Programs & Resources

https://www.colorado.edu/urop/exploring/curiosity-lab/self-paced-resources/engage/pathways-resources

CUR's Guide to Locating Summer Opportunities

https://www.cur.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Locating_a_Summer_Research_Program.pdf

ORAU's Pathfinder Mobile App

https://www.orau.org/oraupathfinder/index.html

Contact

- **Website:** https://www.colorado.edu/urop/
- **Email:** urop@colorado.edu
- **LinkedIn:** https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12274488/

Next Session:

Proposals for UROP Student Project Grants

We'll provide an overview of the components of UROP's student project grant proposals, explaining how to write effectively and plan for university compliance procedures.

Upcoming Sessions

- **Mon., Nov. 30, 2026**, 4:40 - 5:10 pm
- **Tues., Dec. 1, 2026**, 12:30 - 1:00 pm