



Finding Undergraduates Research Opportunities

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Why do Research as an Undergraduate?



**You get to learn about something
know one else has studied before!**

- **Build skills (physics and more)**
- **Opportunity to DO physics**
- **Explore career options**
- **Earn money (in some cases)**
- **Earn credit (in some cases)**
- **Build connections**

Different types of URES



- **Government programs:**
 - **NSF-REU** - National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates
 - **DOE-SULI** – Department of Energy Summer Undergraduate Laboratory Internship
 - **Other government agencies**
- **Industrial programs**
- **Academic programs**
 - **On campus**
 - **Off campus**

How to find UREs - Online



- **The Nucleus** – physics community
- **NSF REU site**
- **DOE SULI site**
- **WebGURU**
- **Pathways to Science**
- **Physics Today**
- **USA Jobs** – government jobs for students

How to find UREs - Locally



- **Campus resources**
 - **Department**
 - **Campus careers services office**
 - **Faculty**
- **Other local opportunities**
 - **Newspapers**
 - **Job/career fairs**

Search Tips

- **Choose “keywords” carefully**

- Astronomy
- Biophysics
- Chemistry
- Computational science

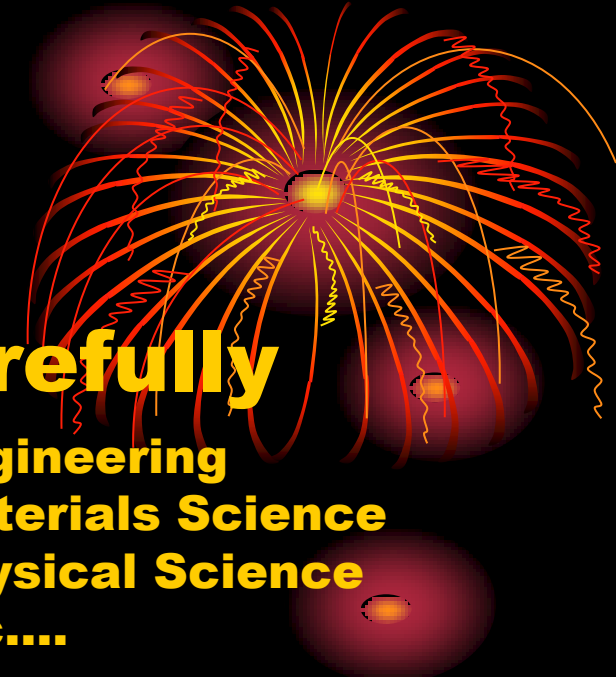
- Engineering
- Materials Science
- Physical Science
- Etc....

- **Ask questions**

- Schedule (school/job/other)
- Project

- **Volunteer or work for academic credit during academic year**

- **Ask contacts for suggestions**

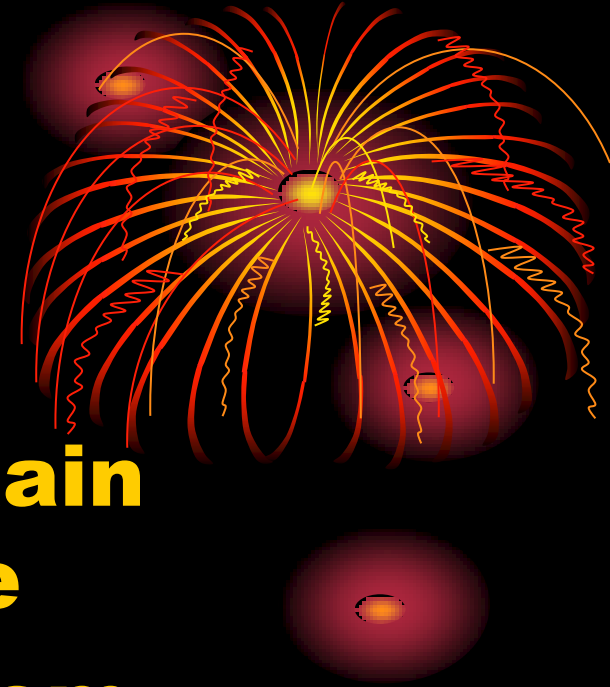


How to Apply – **START EARLY**



- **Do research on “the job”**
- **Develop a good essay or cover letter**
 - **Focus on fit: skills AND motivation matter**
 - **Quality Matters: get it reviewed**
- **PERSONAL Recommendations matter**
 - **Select recommenders that know you, not just your grades**
 - **Provide recommender with application materials (job description AND essay)**

Once you apply -



- **Follow up to make certain application is complete**
- **Respond to requests from potential employer promptly and professionally**
- **Apply to more programs**