

SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

OFFICE OF URSCA

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ursca.org



concordia_ursca

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CONNECT**



undergraduate research | scholarship | creative activity





What is URSCA?

Concordia defines URSCA as encompassing all forms of research, scholarship and creative activity, as an investigation or inquiry conducted by a student, under the mentorship of faculty or staff, which contributes to a high-level intellectual or creative outcome.

What are some benefits to conducting URSCA?



Types of URSCA Experiences

Summer

- On or off campus
- Work 1:1 or in small teams with mentor(s)
- PEAK (URSCA Teams)
- May earn credits (but \$\$)
- Paid + Free or reduced housing
- Typically 6–10 full-time weeks; some part-time
- Workshops and social activities
- Present at COSS

Academic Year

- On or off campus
- Work 1:1 or in small teams with mentor(s)
- PEAK (URSCA Teams)
- May earn 1–4 credits per semester (40hrs/credit)
- Some paid internships
- Few to several hours per week
- One or both semesters
- Present at COSS

Getting Started



Be inquisitive! Talk with faculty and staff about the research or creative scholarship they do.

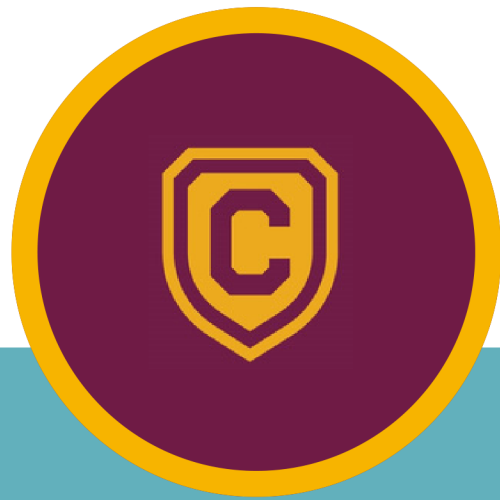


Meet with your advisor & the director of URSCA to talk about the opportunities that interest you most.



Search online for programs that match your interests and eligibility.

Identifying URSCA Opportunities



ON CAMPUS

- Ask dept/pgm admins about application deadlines
- Talk with potential mentors
- Check ursca.org for any programs with special funding



OFF CAMPUS

- Search online
- Check eligibility requirements
 - enrolled students
 - U.S. citizenship
 - time commitment
 - application deadline



SURF
SPUR
SURP
SURE
SURIP
STEP-UP
SIBS
SR-EIP
SROP



Leadership Alliance
National Archives
Sanford Research
Scripps Research
Smithsonian
Think Swiss
DC Internships
USA Jobs



REU and iREU
Pathwaystoscience.org

*There are many programs!
Include your discipline of interest in your search terms.*

Application Tips

TO DO

- Be authentic and articulate in your desire to conduct URSCA
- Back up general statements with specific examples
- Describe your contribution to prior related experiences
- Convey why you are excited about doing URSCA and what motivates you
- Explain how a summer URSCA experience will help you reach your career goals.

BE AUTHENTICALLY YOU!

A cover letter, personal statement, and/or statement of purpose contribute to your opportunity to introduce yourself and why you want to pursue research or creative scholarship.

TO AVOID

- flowery language and hyperbole
- inflating previous experiences
- embellishing results of previous work
- sounding arrogant
- providing a list of skills
- being vague
- not answering application questions
- telling the program how great they are (they already know that) :-)



Letters of Recommendation

- Most applications will ask for 2 to 3 letters of application.
- Talk with faculty and mentors who can speak to your motivation for URSCA and any prior experiences you have had.
- Ask early! Give a minimum of two weeks for recommenders to submit their letter.
- Typically, students apply to ~10 summer programs if seeking off-campus experience.
 - You will submit your information to the program and list who will write a letter of recommendation for you.
 - The program will send an automated email to your letter writers with a link to submit their recommendation.



QUESTIONS?



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PEAK

