

Track 4: Freshwater Research Experience for Undergraduate Awards (FREU) (ongoing program).

Objectives: This award program seeks to initiate collaborative undergraduate research, scholarship, and creative activity, while simultaneously promoting faculty research collaborations in Water Resources across UW System universities.

Principles: Successful, new research and scholarly collaborations develop most readily when collaborators share strong professional relationships, when centered around students, and when working in an environment of reasonable expectations surrounding deliverables. These factors promote trust and provide an environment promoting creative intellectual risk-taking.

Call: This program seeks proposals to support undergraduate students engaged in freshwater research, scholarship, or creative activities for the, summer and fall of 2020 and spring of 2021 if funding is available.

Proposals should clearly relate to Wisconsin's freshwater resource, should be of significant magnitude to engage an undergraduate water fellow for the duration of the award, and should be collaborative in nature.

This call is limited to UW System institutions, based upon the following qualifying standards:

- **Research, Scholarship, or Creative Activity Proposals:** Proposals are sought from each UW System campus seeking to host UW System undergraduate students with water research awards.
- **Collaborative Project Selection:** Each campus is free to determine their own internal review process, provided that selected proposals: 1) clearly relate to Wisconsin's freshwater resource, 2) are of significant magnitude to engage an undergraduate fellow in a meaningful high impact experience for the duration of the award, and 3) are collaborative in nature, ideally to include at least one faculty member from a different UW System university.
- **Undergraduate Water Research Student Selection:** Eligible students must be enrolled as a degree-seeking student for the fall 2020 or the semester in which the fellowship applies at a UW System institution and hold a minimum of Sophomore standing. Undergraduate students should have credentials predictive of their successful completion of the research. Stipends and related expenses for students during the academic year are limited to \$5000 per semester. Summer awards, including stipend, housing, and research expenses are limited to \$10,000. A minimum of 50% of the funds should be allocated for the student stipend. Stipend requirements vary by campus and could take the form of hourly pay, salary, or scholarship. Undergraduate summer water awardees are expected to fully engage in summer experiences and notify host and sponsor PI's of any planned summer absences in advance of the start of the summer experience. Undergraduate awardees participating during the academic year are permitted to receive independent study credit at their home institution while holding this award.
- **Presentation of Research.** Undergraduate award recipients are required to produce a co-authored poster, visual, or audio media product describing their research and contributions made by collaborating campuses. The proposal should clearly identify a proposed venue(s) for the presentation(s). Funds should be budgeted for student presentation of research either as direct costs or as matching support.
- **Requirements of Host and Recipient Institutions:** Each host and recipient institution must provide a sponsor and supervising PI to monitor student progress. Host and sponsor PI's are

required to complete a pre-experience meeting to reviews project goals and student attributes, a mid-summer / mid-semester check-in, and complete a co-drafted one-page end of experience report. Host institution PI-s are expected to oversee the daily activities of REU, and collaborate with fellows on their final poster, visual, or audio media product. Host institutions assume fiscal responsibilities for funds associated with water fellows.

- ****COVID-19 restriction planning.** Description of contingency plans for dealing with possible ongoing COVID-19 restrictions and impacts.

Target dates for submission: 15th of December for spring semester, 1 March for summer session and 15 June 2020 for fall semester.

Proposals should not exceed 10 pages single spaced + budget. Total funds available ~ \$150,000

Proposal format:

1. Cover page (see above)
2. One-page Executive Summary
3. Maximum 10-page single spaced Narrative addressing: proposed UG research project, relationship to Grand Challenges and Cross-cutting themes, potential for enhancing student success and experience gained, Presentation of research – proposed format and venue
4. ****COVID-19 restriction planning**
5. List of references
6. Budget and Budget Justification – maximum 2 pages. PI salary (including fringe) support is limited to \$1,000 for academic year awards, and \$2,000 for summer awards.
7. CVs of Principal Investigators (max 2 pages each), CV of student (if known)