

Summer Research Opportunities

a.k.a. Research Experiences for
Undergraduates (REU)

Why should I do one?

- Broaden your horizons in physics
- Meet new people with common goals and interests
- Travel to a new place
- Life changing experience
- Learn what research is
- Do research if you can't during the academic year
- Check out a potential graduate school program
- Check out potential employment places
- Get Letters of Recommendation from Advisors in Multiple Institutions
- Strengthen your undergraduate preparation

How do I find one?

- www.rowan.edu/physics
 - Click *Current students*; look at Research Opportunities links
 - If any links are broken, email klassen@rowan.edu to update
- Search on your own for REUs plus “specific” qualifiers (e.g. “pre-service teachers”, “women”, etc.)
- Faculty emails, department newsletter, Physics Club FaceBook
- The [NIST SURF Program](#)
- [NSF REU browse/seach page](#)
- Industry summer internships (Contact Dr. Lim)
 - www.thorlabs.com
 - www.edmunsoptics.com

How do I get one?

- **Apply!**
- Pick a variety of programs including what might look to be ones that aren’t as “exciting”
- Talk with your advisor about the application
- Don’t underestimate yourself
- Apply on time with a complete application
- Deadlines from early Dec–Apr

Applications

- Transcripts
 - Some will accept unofficial but be prepared to get your official
- Letter(s) of Recommendation (2 or 3)
 - Don't wait until the last minute
 - Try to give all at once with link to program, addresses and *deadlines*
- Personal Statement (important)
- Resume (write a good one—get help)
 - Include Instruments/Techniques section
 - Include list of relevant coursework

Rowan Students

SURF NIST at Gaithersburg, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Penn State, Los Alamos National Lab, University of Akron, Princeton University, University of Chicago, Caltech , SURF NIST at Boulder, Notre Dame, Florida Institute of Technology, University of Florida, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Harvard-Smithsonian Astronomical Observatory, College of William & Mary, University of Texas-Austin, Northern Arizona University

Other summer options:

- Stay at Rowan and do our 10-week program
 - Typically 10–15 students do research here at Rowan in theoretical and experimental programs
 - There will be more information about this in March
- Check out companies near your hometown
 - Unpaid
 - Hourly
- Other “unpaid” internships (“volunteer”, but you get transportation and living expenses)

Questions?

