

Department of Biological Sciences

2018 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

Information for NEW “mentee” undergraduate researchers

“New” = students who need to match in a lab and students who have already matched in a lab but have been doing research in the lab for one semester or less.

Extended dates may be required by the faculty research advisor. Fellowship is a full-time commitment May 21 – August 3, 2018. During the fellowship you must plan *not* to be out of town (e.g. family vacation), must *not* take classes (including evening and weekend classes, e.g. a Pitt course or MCAT preparation class), and must not have other employment, fellowships, significant volunteering or other commitment.

Fellowships support students interested in joining our research community in the Department of Biological Sciences and planning to continue research after the summer program. We are committed to building and growing a diverse community of undergraduate researchers who want to solve puzzles of the biological world. **Only apply if you plan to continue this research past the summer.**

Program description: This is our “mentor/mentee” fellowship program. The first two weeks are in a workshop working together, all fellows, on a research project. New students are paired with more experienced students during this training. All other weeks are in an individual faculty lab in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Applications due FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16 AT 10:00 AM emailed to nkaufman@pitt.edu
Approximately twelve fellowships will be awarded. The stipend is \$3800 for the summer.

Application Instructions:

1) Prepare these three items:

- CV/ Resumé
- Transcript or other record of undergraduate Pitt grades organized by semester
- Typed application form

2) Type the application form. Write complete, thoughtful and thorough answers. Check for typographical and formatting errors. *Research faculty care about how you think and how careful you are with details. They use the application to begin this assessment.*

2) Email your application by **Friday February 16 10am** to nkaufman@pitt.edu. Include “application” in the SUBJECT line.

Attach the three items:

- Completed application form saved as *your name_newappl*
- Undergraduate grades (or transcript) PDF saved as *your name_transcript.pdf* (check it is readable)
- Curriculum vita (CV) (or Resumé) saved as *your name_CV.pdf*

***If you are already working in a Department of Biological Sciences lab, please ask your faculty advisor to complete and submit a short recommendation letter on your behalf to nkaufman@pitt.edu.

Selection process

The Undergraduate Research Committee of faculty from the Department of Biological Sciences will review all written applications submitted on time. Each application will be read by at least two committee members. Approximately twenty students will be selected for the next round, an interview. Only students selected to interview with the Undergraduate Research Committee will be notified to sign up for an interview. A selection of interviewed students will be chosen for matching with a research lab for summer fellowship.

Strengthen your application:

- Read Department of Biological Sciences faculty research descriptions: <http://www.biology.pitt.edu/research>.
- Undergraduate Research Q+A: Learn about this fellowship and other opportunities for research. Friday, January 12. 4:00-5:00pm. Langley 219B. Bring pen+paper.
- A CV/resumé is required for the application. <http://www.biology.pitt.edu/undergraduate/resume>. Attend our CV/Resumé Workshop: Tuesday, January 16 4-5:30 PM Langley A202. Bring a draft CV or resumé if you have one. Bring pen, paper.
- Undergraduate research poster symposium: Find research labs that fit your interests. Meet current undergraduate researchers: Friday February 2, 4- 5:30 PM. Langley 219B and Langley Lobby.
- Talk with many students already in labs. Ask them about their own experiences!

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Nancy Kaufmann at nkaufman@pitt.edu

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