What is Computing Research? How Can I Participate?

Why participate in research opportunities?

- Earn stipend, scholarship, or credit
- Learn life-long skills
- Think through (and even solve!) challenging problems
- Build professional relationships
- Gain knowledge and expertise
- Apply and discover new ideas and methodologies
- Work with accomplished researchers
- Improve your communication abilities
- Prepare for graduate school
- Contribute to a specific area of knowledge
- Build professional relationships
- Apply and discover new ideas and methodologies
- Improve your communication abilities
- Contribute to a specific area of knowledge

How do you find research opportunities?

CRA-W/CDC Undergraduate Research Programs: CREU and DREU, see back of this page
http://cra.org/cra-w/
CRA Conquer (COMputer ScienCe Undergraduate Research) website:
http://cra-ccc.org/ugresearchopps/
NSF: Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU):
http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu_search.cfm
Office of Naval Research: http://nreip.asee.org/ (Online application typically opens Oct. 1)
NSERC USRA in Canada (inquire with your department to find out how it works at your university)
Research internships at INRIA (the French Institute for Research in Computer Science):
http://www.inria.fr/en/institute/recruitment/join-us/doing-a-research-internship
Research internships in Germany (CS is not explicitly included, but see the FAQ for finding projects that include significant computing components.): https://www.daad.de/rise/en/index.html
Ask your professors, advisor for opportunities. Visit research groups in your department.
Search for “Undergraduate Research Experience” on the web.

When to apply?

NSF Summer REUs (including CRA-W/CDC DREU):
Mid February to mid March
CRA-W/CDC CREU: Mid May
Private companies and government labs:
Early January to February
Your own college/university:
Often early in the calendar year as well

Start Early! These dates are typical final due dates – many places start accepting applications and awarding positions much sooner.

(OVER)
**CRA-W/CDC Research Programs**

(For more comparison information: [http://cra.org/cra-w/creu/#compare-to-dreu](http://cra.org/cra-w/creu/#compare-to-dreu))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DREU</th>
<th>CREU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td>Summer (10 weeks)</td>
<td>Academic year plus optional summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stipend per student</strong></td>
<td>$7000 per summer; relocation travel assistance when appropriate</td>
<td>$1500 per semester and $4000 during optional summer extension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td>Mentor’s institution</td>
<td>Student’s institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deadline to apply</strong></td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>May 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**What to include in your Undergraduate Research Resume**

- Relevant courses
- GPA - You’ll also typically need to submit a transcript
- Major projects
- Publications (if you have them; most undergraduates don’t)
- Work experience
- Languages, tools, etc. including level of proficiency

Be careful, neat, and honest

**Additional Resources:**

- CRA-W resources for undergraduates: [http://cra.org/cra-w/for-undergraduates/](http://cra.org/cra-w/for-undergraduates/)

Visit us at CRA-W.org
Follow us @CRAWomen