



CRA-WP

Computing Research Association
Widening Participation



Program Sponsorship Prospectus





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CRA-WP's programs, people, and resources provide mentoring and support at every stage of the research talent pipeline.





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A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

At the Computing Research Association's Committee on Widening Participation (CRA-WP), our mission is to expand access, opportunity, and support for all individuals pursuing careers in computing research. Through a range of targeted programs, CRA-WP provides mentoring and professional development at every stage of the research talent pipeline — from undergraduate students to faculty and industry researchers.

For more than three decades, CRA-WP has evolved to meet the needs of a changing field. What began as a commitment to advancing the success of women in computing research has grown into a broad mandate to widen participation and support all individuals pursuing computing research careers. Today, our programs serve thousands each year and are led by a dedicated board of volunteers working to ensure that pathways into computing research are open and accessible to all.

As a longtime computer science educator and researcher, I've seen firsthand how early exposure, strong mentorship, and targeted support can shape a student's path and strengthen the field. CRA-WP's work plays a vital role in building the computing research talent pipeline.

In a time when public funding is increasingly uncertain, sustaining this work will rely more on the commitment of private partners. Your sponsorship helps us expand the programs that prepare the next generation of computing researchers — ensuring the innovations of tomorrow reflect the full potential of our society.

We invite you to join us.

Sincerely,



Curtis C. Cain
Director of Broadening Participation
CRA-WP

Undergraduate Students



DREU

Distributed Research Experiences for Undergraduates

For over 30 years, the **Distributed Research Experiences for Undergraduates (DREU)** program has offered a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to immerse themselves in computing research and gain firsthand experience working with faculty mentors at institutions across the U.S. This 10-week summer program helps students explore what graduate school is like, while mentors support the next generation of researchers and promote diversity within the computing field.

“

The most valuable aspect of the DREU program this summer was building confidence in my skillset and learning what a career in research looked like.

-2024 DREU Undergraduate Participant

”



80% of DREU students reported substantial development of their technical skills.

Participants reported that hands-on experience helped them to **clarify their interest in pursuing advanced study or careers in computing.**



90% were satisfied with the quality of interactions within their research teams, enhancing their collaborative experience.

CRA-WP Programs

SUPPORTING EVERY STAGE OF THE RESEARCH TALENT PIPELINE

Master's Students



DREAM

Distributed Research Apprenticeships for Master's

Distributed Research Apprenticeship for Masters (DREAM) is an innovative program tailored for master's students with non-computing bachelor's degrees who are pursuing pathways into the tech industry and advanced degrees in Computer Science. Through a competitive selection process, DREAM participants engage in a 3-4 month research-focused apprenticeship, earning a \$12,000 stipend.



of participants expressed satisfaction with their relationship with their faculty advisors.

Participants found the opportunity to conduct **research as a valuable experience, which promoted confidence in their skills and growth as researchers.**



of participants plan to attain a doctoral degree post-DREAM.

“ The most valuable aspect has definitely been being able to join the broader research community, especially within my program. DREAM definitely helped in opening up those doors and landing my work.

-2024 DREAM Participant

Graduate Students



Grad Cohort Workshop

The **CRA-WP Grad Cohort Workshop** is a transformative, multi-day event designed to provide graduate students in computing with critical mentoring, networking, and professional development opportunities. This workshop equips participants with the skills, knowledge, and connections needed to navigate graduate school, advance in research, and build successful careers in computing.

“

A major takeaway from the Grad Cohort Workshop was the privilege to network with my peers, share experiences, and interact with other computing scholars from the industry.”

-2025 GRAD COHORT PARTICIPANT

”



of participants attend to learn tips to succeed in degree programs and future careers.

Participants showed significant **improvement in their computing identity and confidence to succeed in computing.**



Found the Advising and mentoring sessions to be extremely useful.

CRA-WP Programs

SUPPORTING EVERY STAGE OF THE RESEARCH TALENT PIPELINE

Industry Professionals



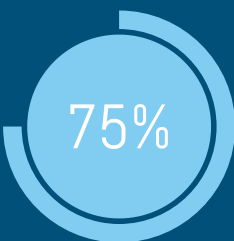
Early and Mid-Career Mentoring Workshop

The **CRA-WP Early and Mid-Career Mentoring Workshop** supports researchers in the early or mid stages of a career in academia, industry or at a government lab. Sessions focus on providing insight into how to build collaborations, negotiating, preparing for senior positions, and effective leadership.



83% expressed satisfaction over the workshop's focus and content

Participants appreciated the **opportunities to engage in meaningful conversations**, reinforcing the idea that active networking is crucial for career advancement and building a supportive community.



75% of participants expressed a strong gain in knowledge of how to promote their work and increase its visibility

“ I honestly wasn't sure if I needed to attend the workshop at all - I'm mid-career, and I was pretty sure I knew what I needed to do. The amount of HELPFUL information I got as a mid-career participant completely floored me, and the networking connections I made were extremely useful and will be for years to come.

-2023 CAREER MENTORING WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT

Multi-Stage Career Support



TAPIA CONFERENCE

The goal of the Tapia Conference is to bring together undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, researchers, and professionals in computing from all backgrounds. CRA-WP attends as an exhibitor each year and hosts mentoring sessions for attendees that focus on preparing for and developing their professional research careers in academia, and industrial and government labs.



Mentoring Mentors Workshop

The Mentoring Mentors program focuses on supporting and creating a larger community of mentors that is representative of the population in computing undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral programs. Recognizing the urgent need to address the lack of mentors, the program aims to support faculty and researchers as they mentor future populations of students entering computing programs.



Sponsorship Benefits

SUPPORT THE COMPUTING PIPELINE

	Platinum	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Corporate Rate	\$108,000	\$72,000	\$42,000	\$9,600
Government and Nonprofit Rate	\$60,000	\$42,000	\$24,000	\$6,000
Number of CRA-WP Activities Participant Lists	6	4	2	1
Logo on CRA-WP Event Site and Mobile App	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo in Welcome and Closing Sessions	✓	✓	✓	✓
Number of Sponsor Registrations <i>(CRA-WP Grad Cohort and/or Career Mentoring Workshop)</i>	10	7	4	2
Number of Events for Onsite Sponsor Tables <i>(CRA-WP Grad Cohort and/or Career Mentoring Workshop)</i>	2	2	1	1
Number of Event Applicant Databases	5	4	3	2
Sponsor Break <i>(Includes tabletop and other prominent signage)</i>			✓	✓
Sponsor Meal <i>(Includes tabletop and other prominent signage)</i>	✓	✓		
Sponsor Feature Social Event <i>(Includes tabletop and other prominent signage)</i>	✓			

Click [HERE](#) to Sponsor Today

Additional Impact Opportunities



Tapia Travel Scholarship

\$1,000

CRA-WP's goal is to send 20 participants to the 2026 Tapia Conference. \$1,000 will provide travel support for one student.

Grad Cohort Workshop

Grad Cohort Travel Scholarship

\$1,500

CRA-WP's goal is to support 240 participants for the 2026 Grad Cohort Workshop. \$1,500 will provide travel support for one student.

Early and Mid-Career Mentoring Workshop

Career Mentoring Workshop Travel Scholarship

\$1,500

CRA-WP's goal is to support 180 participants for the 2027 workshop. \$1,500 will provide travel support for one participant.

DREU

Distributed Research Experiences for Undergraduates

DREU Student Summer Stipend

\$10,100

CRA-WP's goal is to support 20 participants for the Summer 2026 cohort. \$10,100 provides funding for one student (including travel support).

DREAM

Distributed Research Apprenticeships for Master's

DREAM Student Summer Stipend

\$13,600

CRA-WP's goal is to support 10 participants for the Summer 2026 cohort. \$13,600 provides funding for one student (including travel support).

Make a commitment to support every researcher



Become a CRA-WP Sponsor Today!

Fill out our [sponsorship form](#)

*For more information or to discuss options,
please email ccain@cra.org*



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