



Getting Started in Research with URAP Apprenticeships

What is URAP?

- Helps to connect students and faculty with open projects
- Research experiences spanning a wide range of fields
- More structured experience
 - Listing of currently open projects
 - Formal application/interview process
 - Contract for work expected, what kind of learning experience, etc.
 - Get units for doing research



Navigating the Project Listing

- <http://urap.berkeley.edu/>
- Make sure to also look through listings that may be outside of your major, interdisciplinary, or associated with other institutes

Molecular and Cell Biology

Helen Bateup, Professor Molecular and Cell Biology

(1) Anatomical and functional impact of mTOR deletion from midbrain dopamine neurons (Current Term Now Closed)

Abby Dernburg, Professor Molecular and Cell Biology

(1) Exploring the diversity of meiotic mechanisms. (Full- no new appr needed)

Richard Harland, Professor Molecular and Cell Biology

- (1) Genetic Analysis of the neural development of *Xenopus laevis* (Current Term Now Closed)
- (2) Function of RNA-binding proteins and alternative splicing during frog development. (Full- no new appr needed)
- (3) Regulation of Wnt-signaling by proton pumps during vertebrate development and human cancer (Full- no new appr needed)
- (4) Exploring how tissue mechanics and multicellular dynamics shape tissues during organ formation (Full- no new appr needed)

Rebecca Heald, Professor Molecular and Cell Biology

- (1) Molecular and Cell Biology Diversity Journalist (Current Term Now Closed)
- (2) Making microfluidic devices to study mitotic spindle size control (Current Term Now Closed)

Application Requirements

- Read interesting listings for requirements specific to the project/position
 - Level of prior experience and skills (ie programming or lab techniques), major, and coursework completed
 - Consider time commitment!
- Minimum GPA requirement of 2.8

Application Timeline

- Unfortunately, projects for Fall 2023 semester are closed.
 - Check the website for updates on Spring 2024 projects!
- **Applications are due on Monday of the second week of classes each term.**
 - If deadline has passed, look through extended deadline projects (these are typically easier to get into as well!)

Application Materials

- Statement of Interest for each mentor you are applying to
 - Maximum of 3 faculty members
- Grades for relevant college-level coursework
- Hard copy of unofficial transcript/academic summary (in My Academics) could be required

Preparing the Application

- Do your own research on projects that interest you
 - Lab websites, current projects in the lab
 - Recent publications
- Make sure your statement of interest addresses the specific lab and project
 - What are your research interests? What you want to get out of your research experience? Are there opportunities to extend the project? What skills can you contribute?

Tips and Advice

- Maximize your applications
 - Start early and have your 3 applications ready by the deadline
 - During the first couple weeks of school, continue to check the website for new projects/extended deadlines and apply to ones that interest you as you are notified of any rejections from your 3 applications
- Tell a story with your statement
 - Don't just list your resume in essay format, bring your experiences to life!

Alternate Research Opportunities



- SURF L&S
- SURF Rose Hill
- HAAS Scholars
- OURS research newsletter

Resources

- URAP-specific workshops
- OURS Peer Advisors:
 - Rachel Chen:
rachel_chen@berkeley.edu
 - Mauricio Chandler:
25chandler.mauricio@berkeley.edu
- Program Manager/Advisor:
Stefanie Ebeling,
urap@berkeley.edu

