

EPSCoR Supervised Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE)

Answers given by Board of Regents staff in response to questions in response to the SURE Request for Applications (RFA) as of **November 3, 2014**.

Last Day to answer questions: **November 20, 2014**

Proposals Due: December 1, 2014

Question:

I have a question relating to eligibility requirements. I am an international student; would I be eligible to apply.

Answer:

There are no additional eligibility requirements other than those listed in the RFP. One does not have to be a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. to apply.

Question:

I am a student, and my research professor is currently mentoring another student in my research lab who is participating in the SURE program. Is it alright for the professor to mentor me as well or would I need to find another mentor if I am able to secure a position in the program?

Answer:

This is acceptable as long as the faculty mentor is willing to take on the additional work/responsibility

Question:

In the SURE RFP it is stated that a faculty member can submit only one application, sponsoring one student. I have a converse question. Can two faculty members involved in an interdisciplinary study co-mentor a single student?

Answer:

We would have no objection to two faculty members co-mentoring a single student; however, only one faculty member may be listed in the application as the faculty mentor, as our proposal system cannot accept two individuals as PI. You may mention within the application that the student will be co-mentored, and identify the co-mentor.

Question:

We have an exceptional student that we'd like to submit a SURE application for, who is slated to graduate in spring 2015. Is this enough time for her to meet the qualifications of the SURE timeline or is she not eligible? Is it possible that the SURE grant could extend past her graduate date into a summer research opportunity?

Answer:

The SURE research experience would have to be completed while the student is matriculated full-time and could not extend past the graduation date. It is expected that the SURE contracts will be in place for January 1, 2015; you would have to determine if the research experience could be completed between that time and her graduation.

Question:

We have a student who is currently attending our university on the GI bill – would that factor into her eligibility?

Answer:

That would not affect her eligibility.

Question:

I am a student and have begun some research last week that I would like to pursue under the SURE program. However, I am already getting potential funding from HBCU-Up for the same research. HBCU-Up is a \$2500 semesterly scholarship. My question is: can I submit my said research for both the HBCU-UP and SURE programs and still be eligible for funds from both?

Answer:

You can apply for a SURE award regardless of whether you have other sources of support.

Question:

Can the program requirements be completed over spring and fall semesters as long as the 320 hours are met?

Answer:

The program requirements could be completed over spring and fall semesters as you describe.

Question:

The application process described was a little confusing so I wanted to know if you could clarify how to submit the application

Answer:

Section C.2. of the RFA gives directions on how to submit the application via the LOGAN system. The application must be submitted by the faculty mentor.

Question:

How would we keep track of how many hours were completed for the project?

Answer:

It is up to the participants—keeping in mind the requirements put in place by their institution for this type of activity—to decide how to keep track of project activity.

Question:

I am a faculty member. The student I would like to write the SURE application with is a full-time student, but will be taking a leave of absence next semester (Spring 2015) to pursue an internship out of state. The study abroad office and other on-campus offices were consulted, but they cannot provide her with credit during her time away from campus for this internship; thus, it will be documented as a leave of absence. The student's research project will span three semesters, including her time on internship and her senior year back on our campus. We are investigating the possibility of her collecting data during her internship. Given this information, please let me know if you think my student still fits the eligibility criteria for the SURE mechanism.

Answer:

If the student will be considered by your institution as being matriculated full-time during her internship, then there is not a problem. If your institution does not consider her as matriculated full-time during this period, then she could not be supported by the SURE grant during this period, but could still apply for a SURE grant and could be supported upon her return for up to three consecutive semesters/terms.

Question:

I have a high school senior who is interested in applying for the SURE. She is enrolled part time as a student at our university, but will not be a full time student till Summer 2015. Can she apply?

Answer:

The SURE contracts that will be issued for successful applications are expected to have a start date of January 1, 2015 and a duration of one year. It is expected that the research experience will be completed during this time period. The student would be able to apply for SURE, but could not actually start activities until she was matriculated full-time at your institution, and the activities would have to be completed during the summer and fall terms/semesters, as the contract would have an end date of December 31, 2015.