

SURF Student Application

Hi Nicole, when you submit this form, the owner will be able to see your name and email address.

Please Read

SPECIAL NOTE: This program is funded by the Fralin Life Sciences Institute in Blacksburg and NOT the Fralin Biomedical Research Institute in Roanoke. Information and application forms for the Roanoke programs are available elsewhere...

neuroSURF website: <https://wp.vtc.vt.edu/neurosurf/>

Molecular Visualization SURF website: <https://wp.vtc.vt.edu/molecularvis/>

Program Information

The Fralin Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program is a 10-week training program designed to give motivated Virginia Tech undergraduates the opportunity to engage in full-time (~40 hrs/week) research and related professional development activities that mirror graduate training. The goal is to offer students experiences that will help them determine if they want to pursue a career in research while they develop skills for graduate school. The program includes weekly research and professional development seminars, periodic social events, and a final symposium during which students will present their research. At least 15 students will be selected to participate in this training program. Each fellow will receive a \$4,000 stipend. Housing is NOT provided as part of this program.

Program Eligibility and Expectations

Any Virginia Tech undergraduate considering a career in life sciences research AND who will be registered as a full-time student next Fall is encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to rising second and third year undergraduates, students with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, and students who have yet to engage in a full-time summer research experience.

SURF fellows must commit at least 40 hrs/wk to the training program, therefore fellows are not permitted to enroll in summer classes, participate in MCAT prep courses, engage in activities for pay, or engage in other activities that may interfere with program activities.

SURF fellows commit to participating in the full 10-week program. Students may not take vacation during this training period.

Students must have the commitment of a faculty mentor before they apply to this program. Please note that there is NO list of available mentors. Students will need to find a suitable mentor (conducting research in a life science or related field) and gain their support prior to applying. If you need some help, OUR student ambassadors are available: <https://www.research.undergraduate.vt.edu/about/ambassadors.html>

Application Instructions

Only complete applications will be reviewed. A complete application must include:

1. Complete e-application form (this form).
2. Submission of your unofficial transcript uploaded to this e-application.
3. A complete reference form from your research faculty mentor. Once you submit this form you mentor will automatically receive an email request that includes a link to an online form where they will provide information about you and your project.

Biographical Information

1. First Name *

2. Middle Initial

3. Last name *

4. Virginia Tech E-mail address *

5. When do you plan to graduate with your bachelor's degree? *

- Fall 2020
- Spring 2021
- Fall 2021
- Spring 2022
- Fall 2022
- Spring 2023

Other

6. Are you a transfer student? *

- Yes
- No

7. How long have you been at VT? *

- 1st year student
- 2nd year student
- 3rd year student

Other

Academic Information

8. College of your primary major: *

- CALS
- CAUS
- CLAHS
- CNRE
- COB
- COE
- COS
- Undecided/University Studies

9. Major 1 *

10. Major 2

11. Minor 1

12. Minor 2

13. Cumulative GPA *

14. Please upload a copy of your unofficial transcript in pdf format.

When you pull up your unofficial transcript online, select all, copy and then paste into a Microsoft Word document. Then print to .pdf or save as .pdf.

IMPORTANT: All submitted transcripts will be downloaded as a batch and will not be tied to your application form. Therefore, in order for your transcript to be reviewed as part of YOUR application you must use the following file naming convention: LastName_FirstName_transcript.pdf. (Non-anonymous question ⓘ) *

* Required

Faculty Mentor Information

Once your application is submitted, an email will be sent out asking your faculty mentor to submit a letter of support.

15. Faculty mentor's first name *

16. Faculty mentor's last name *

17. Faculty mentor E-mail *

18. Faculty mentor's primary department *

19. If you will have more than one faculty mentor, please give their name, department, and email address here

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* Required

Project Information

20. Title of proposed research project *

Enter your answer

21. Project Description (2,000 characters or ~300 word max) *

In your own words, describe your proposed research project. The description should include the following:

- 1) Statement of the research question(s) or goal(s) of project*
- 2) Purpose of the study (i.e. big picture and where it fits in)*
- 3) Methods or description of analytic processes to be used*

Enter your answer

22. Why is this area of research a particular interest to you and how do you think it might influence your future plans (max 100 words) *

Enter your answer

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Research Experience

23. Have you had any research experience out of your lab courses? *

Yes

No

24. Please describe what you learned from the experience(s). (max 200 words)

Include techniques as well as other elements of your personal, academic, and professional development

Enter your answer

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Research Experience

Choose up to 2 research experiences to highlight

25. Research Experience 1: Project title, mentor name, and institution where the research was conducted

Enter your answer

26. When did you conduct this research?

- high school
- college

27. How much time did you commit to this research

ex. 20 hr/week over a semester or 15 hr/week over 8 weeks in the summer

Enter your answer

28. Which of the following best describes your experience?

select all that apply

- for credit (undergraduate research credit, independent study, etc.)
- for pay
- volunteer

29. Research Experience 2: Project title, mentor name, and institution where the research was conducted

Enter your answer

30. When did you conduct this research?

- high school
- college

31. How much time did you commit to this research?

ex. 20hr/week over a semester or 15hr/week over 8 weeks in the summer

Enter your answer

32. Which of the following best describes your experience?

select all that apply

* Required

Personal Statements

33. Why are you interested in the Fralin SURF program? *

Enter your answer

34. What three strengths can you bring to the Fralin SURF program and your specific research project? Please explain. *

Enter your answer

35. What are your top three areas for improvement that you think the SURF program can help you improve and describe how? *

Enter your answer

36. How do you think the Fralin SURF program might contribute to your career plans and related decisions?

Enter your answer

37. List recent jobs, academic achievements, and other highlights from your resume. Please note that you are NOT required to submit your resume. *

Enter your answer

38. How did you hear about the Fralin SURF program? *

Enter your answer

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Commitment Statements

Please indicate your acceptance of the policies of this program, should you be selected to be a SURF fellow.

39. SURF fellows must commit at least 40 hrs/wk to the training program, therefore fellows are not permitted to enroll in summer classes, participate in MCAT prep courses, engage in activities for pay, or engage in other activities that may interfere with program activities.

Should I be selected to be a SURF fellow, I will NOT engage in any paid or academic activities outside of the SURF program activities. I will commit 40 hrs/wk to the training program. *

I agree

I do not agree

40. SURF fellows commit to participating in the full 10-week program. Students may not take vacation during this training period.

Should I be selected as a SURF fellow, I understand that I am required to participate fully in the 10-week program. *

I agree

I do not agree

Send me an email receipt of my responses

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