



RICE NATURAL SCIENCES
Biosciences

2020 Biosciences Summer Research Institute (SRI)

COVID-19 update: The Summer Research Institute will be offered for summer 2020 with the following adjustments:

- The mentored research project will be a remote project that the student can pursue off-campus, but under a faculty advisor. This must be the sort of project where the student can produce a poster or powerpoint presentation at the end of the summer outlining their progress and conclusions.
- The student journal club will meet once a week via zoom, but will remain the same otherwise - students will present research papers relevant to their summer project and engage in discussion, led by a journal club mentor.
- The final symposium will be a webinar or virtual symposium where students will present their summer project in a joint session with Biosciences faculty and graduate students and other summer interns.
- Organized seminars and workshops in conjunction with students in other Rice summer programs will only be held virtually and will likely be fewer in number than in previous summers. We will have a virtual ethics short course, as usual, and we plan to add some workshops to assist students in creating the presentation at the end of the summer.

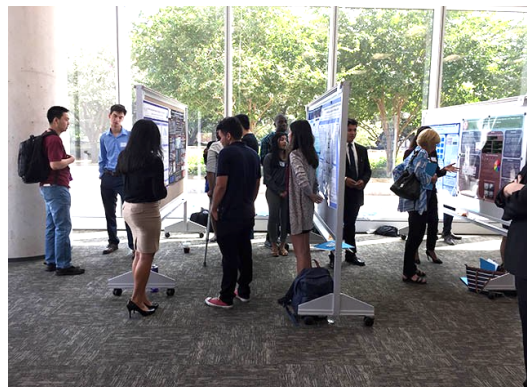
Students interested in the 2020 SRI should secure their own projects in research labs and obtain faculty mentor support for participation in the SRI **before applying for the program**. The deadline is extended to May 15, but students are encouraged to apply at their earliest convenience so that we know how many are interested. Faculty sponsors may request deadline extensions beyond May 15 by emailing biosciences-summer-institute@rice.edu.

The regular guidelines for the research institute are included as page 2 of this document so that students can read the full program description, but keep in mind that the updates above in red supersede any of the regular guidelines.



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Biosciences Summer Research Institute (SRI)



What is the Biosciences Summer Research Institute (SRI)? A training program for Rice undergraduates who are interested in pursuing graduate level education in biology. The summer program features:

- A mentored research project in cutting-edge research laboratories in biochemistry, cell and developmental biology, biophysics and structural biology, ecology and evolutionary biology, microbiology, molecular genetics, neurobiology, signal transduction, cancer biology, plant biology, synthetic and systems biology, and metabolic engineering.
- A student journal club meeting once a week where students present research papers relevant to their summer project and engage in discussion.
- A final symposium where student participants present their research in a joint session with Biosciences faculty and graduate students and other visiting summer interns.
- Organized seminars and workshops in conjunction with students in other Rice summer programs.

Who is eligible for the SRI? Rice undergraduates who will conduct summer research on campus. Students interested in the SRI should secure their own projects in research labs and obtain faculty mentor support for participation in the SRI **before applying for the program**. Student researchers should be on-campus for the majority of the summer in order to participate fully in the SRI program. Any summer salary must be paid by the sponsoring faculty member for up to full-time (40 hours per week) research work; the minimum total research hours for the summer will be 240 hours to qualify for the program certificate of completion. Note that the SRI does not have funding for stipends, your salary must be negotiated with your faculty sponsor.

To apply, please complete these steps:

- *Secure a position in one of the Rice research labs by contacting potential faculty advisors by email; this is usually done in late fall or the first few weeks of the spring semester.*
- *Submit the online application, available here: http://susan.cates.web.rice.edu/bios_sri_application.html*
- *Email a current copy of your Rice transcript and resume to: biosciences-summer-institute@rice.edu*
 - *Resumes must include your student ID number, along with ALL computer, lab, and field work skills, employment history, and academic honors*
- *Request a Letter of Support from the faculty member who will serve as your summer research mentor. This letter must be emailed directly by the faculty member to: biosciences-summer-institute@rice.edu*

Spots in the SRI are limited. Early application deadline is ~~March 31~~ **extended to May 15, 2020.**