CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Guide for Faculty Mentors

Sponsored Summer Research Program (SSRP) 2027

Undergraduate research in the SSRP is a faculty-mentored experience. Faculty mentors play a critical role in guiding students through the research process, ensuring the feasibility of the proposed project, and supporting the student's academic and professional development. Your recommendation is a key component of the review process and helps evaluators assess both the quality of the project and the strength of the mentoring plan.

Recommendation Content

Please address the following points in your recommendation:

1. **Relationship to the Applicant**
    - How long have you known the applicant, and in what capacity (e.g., coursework, research supervision, advising)?
2. **Evaluation of the Proposed Project**
   Please comment on:
    - How well-defined the project's objectives are and whether the proposed methods are appropriate for achieving them
    - The feasibility of the project given the student's access to facilities, materials, training, and other necessary resources
    - How the project will contribute to the student's academic, intellectual, and professional development
3. **Mentorship Plan**
   Undergraduate research is always faculty-mentored. Please describe:
    - Your role in mentoring the student during the summer
    - The expected frequency and nature of your interactions (e.g., regular meetings, supervision, feedback)
    - Whether the student will collaborate with other members of your research team, if applicable
4. **Student Preparedness and Potential**
    - Your confidence in the applicant's ability to successfully complete the proposed work
    - The student's readiness to benefit from the research experience
5. **Resource Considerations (If Applicable)**
    - Are there extenuating circumstances around resource needs for this research or the student that we should be aware of?

Thank you for your time and for supporting undergraduate research through the SSRP.