

Expectations

Summer Community of Scholars (SCS) participants are expected to participate to the extent needed to complete the project activities within the 10-week period. The project activities and time commitment are established in coordination with the faculty/research staff who will mentor the project. In general, the time commitment is inline with being enrolled in classes full time.

The official dates of the program correspond to the 10-week Summer Semester starting and ending dates. However, the individual project starting and ending dates, as well as the contact hours, can be flexible and should be decided individually between the participant and mentor in advance of starting the project.

Maintaining a part time job (<20 hours per week) on top of participating in the RCEU program can be handled by some students, while other students will struggle to meet obligations & deadlines. Know yourself and your limitations and don't overcommit. We recommend students not take on more than 20 hours per week of combined obligations outside of their project demands while participating in the RCEU program.

Students are limited to a maximum of 2 summer classes that overlap the RCEU program.

No obligations that conflict with the RCEU program are allowed (internships, classes, jobs, etc) and all additional obligations must be approved by the project mentor. You **MUST** be available to attend all RCEU sessions and work with your mentor as needed to complete the project.

As above, participants are expected to attend Professional Development Workshops throughout the Summer. Participation in the Writing Workshops is required of the Honors Capstone Research (HCR) Summer Program participants, and participants of the Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates (RCEU) program are encouraged to attend. If a participant is unable to attend a Professional Development Workshop for unavoidable reasons, they must consult the Director of Undergraduate Research at their very earliest opportunity.

Summer Scholars are expected to participate in the Shadowing Program if their mentor signs up for the event (Day/Time TBD).

All required paperwork, pre- and post- assessment surveys, etc. should be completed and submitted in a timely manner.

To conclude the program, all SCS participants are expected to create a poster and present the results of their activities at a Poster Session held in the Fall semester following the program.

Participants must comply with the rules of The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), the standards and instructions for behavior, including, without limitation, the Student Code of Conduct. Participants waive and release all claims against the University that are caused by their failure to comply with such rules, standards, and instructions.

In addition to the end-of-program poster session, participants agree to present their work at other applicable dissemination events including, but not limited to: Research Horizons Day (Spring), University of Alabama System Honors Research Day, UAH recruiting events, other professional symposia, etc. Participants are also strongly encouraged to submit a manuscript to Perpetua, the UAH Journal of Undergraduate Research, or other appropriate research journals.

In order to promote the program, participants are expected to contribute a brief, non-technical description of their work and a high quality photograph(s) for UAH social media and print marketing. As such, participants agree to allow the use of their name and subsequent photographs in all materials pertaining to the promotion of the UAH SCS. Usage may include name and photograph on the UAH website, related social media, and publication in print materials. Captions for the photographs may include first and last names, Mentor's name, majors, and titles and descriptions of the research/creative project.

As representatives of the Summer Community of Scholars Program, participants are expected to help promote undergraduate research and serve as ambassadors, when possible. SCS participants are expected to support at least one activity in the academic year following their summer experience. This expectation can be satisfied through presentations and attendance to open houses, recruiting events, research events, STEM outreach, etc. Requests for participation in these types of events may come in the two semesters following the summer program, and participants are expected to volunteer as able.

Participant Eligibility

Eligible candidates must be undergraduate students in good standing, who are enrolled in classes at UAH both the Spring Semester preceding the RCEU program and the Fall Semester following the program. Candidates who will graduate before the Fall semester following the Program are not eligible. Candidates who have earned a Master's degree or higher are not eligible for this program. A participant can receive this award only once during their undergraduate careers.

International students are eligible to participate. They must provide proof from the Office of International Services that they are eligible to receive a stipend from the Program, and the method of distributing the funds. Due to visa status regulations and international tax treaties, we cannot guarantee that international participants will receive the full amount of the stipend due to necessary payment of taxes, etc. Each process will depend on the individual student's status/situation.

Participants should be aware that the stipend may affect their financial aid status, and should consult with the Financial Aid Office, if they have questions.

Participants receive a stipend to offset living costs during this rigorous program. Therefore, they are strongly discouraged from having other employment commitments during the 10-week

program. Likewise, participants are encouraged to focus their time and energy on their research, and so are also strongly discouraged from taking academic classes during the program.

Participants with compelling reasons for exceptions to the above, MUST discuss them with their mentor AND the program director for official approval BEFORE the start of the program. Any exceptions must not interfere in any way with project activities/schedules, attendance to the Professional Development Workshops, and presentation of research at the final poster session.

Stipend Payment Process

- International SCS participants must immediately report to Ms. Joy Werka in the Office of International Services to confirm eligibility to receive funds and method of payment. Due to visa status regulations and international tax treaties, we cannot guarantee that international participants will receive the full amount of the stipend due to necessary payment of taxes, etc. Each process will depend on the individual student's status/situation.
- Participants will be paid via the Bursar in 2 payments.
- As reported by the mentor, a student's failure to begin the program or commit to the agreed upon project schedule may result in a delay of payment of the stipend, and possible non-payment of the stipend.

Summary of Participant Responsibilities (details in text above)

Participants must fulfill the requirements below to participate in, receive a stipend from, or compete for any awards from the Program. Participants:

- Must provide enough contact hours as agreed to with the project mentor within the 10-week period of the program.
- Should not have more than 20/hrs week of other obligations and any such cannot conflict with any RCEU requirements
- Must attend all Professional Development Workshops for the Program. HCR participants are required to attend the writing workshops, and RCEU participants are encouraged to attend.
- Must participate in the Shadowing/Outreach Program, if the mentor signs up to participate.
- Must submit all required paperwork, surveys, etc. in a timely manner.
- Must submit a final poster and/or presentation of their research/scholarship.
- Must attend the Poster Session in Fall Semester in person to present their poster.
- Participants are also strongly encouraged to disseminate their research performed through this program at other applicable events, and submit a manuscript to Perpetua, the UAH Journal of Undergraduate Research, or other appropriate research journals.

- Must contribute a brief, non-technical description of their research and high quality photograph(s) for UAH social media and print marketing.
- Are expected to serve as informal ambassadors of the program and undergraduate research and creative scholarship, and to volunteer for at least one outreach event during the following two semesters after the program.

Summary of Participant Eligibility (details in text above)

Participants:

- Eligible candidates must be undergraduate students in good standing, who are enrolled in classes at UAH both the Spring Semester preceding the RCEU program and the Fall Semester following the program.
- Candidates who have earned a Master's Degree or higher are not eligible.
- If a candidate is a non-US citizen, they must provide written proof from the Office of International Services confirming an appropriate visa, eligible to meet the contact hours of the project, can receive a stipend, and the method of payment.
- Participants must be aware that the stipend award may impact their financial aid status.
- Participants are strongly discouraged against having employment or taking academic classes during the program.
- Participants with compelling reasons for exceptions to the employment/academic class restrictions MUST discuss this with their mentor and the program director for official approval BEFORE the start of the program.