Center for Neurotechnology
Research Experience for Undergraduate Program

Frequently Asked Questions:

Question: How do I know if I am eligible to apply?
Answer: Eligibility requirements can be found on the CNT REU website (http://centerforneurotech.org/content/research-experience-undergraduates)

Question: I will graduate before or during the REU program, am I still eligible to apply?
Answer: No, graduating seniors are not eligible for the program.

Question: Do I need to have research experience to apply?
Answer: No, you do not need to have research experience.

Question: Do I have to be a rising Junior or Senior to apply?
Answer: No. However, we would like you to have taken basic science and math courses, and therefore we expect most students will have finished their second year by the start of the program.

Question: How do I apply for the REU program?
Answer: The REU application is online only. You can find it on the CNT website (http://centerforneurotech.org/content/research-experience-undergraduates)

Question: I am a student with a disability and need accommodations in order to complete the application. Who should I contact?
Answer: Please contact Dr. Eric Chudler, CNT Executive Director, by email at chudler@uw.edu or by phone at 206-616-6899.

Question: I see that I need to upload my school transcripts, are unofficial transcripts acceptable?
Answer: Yes, unofficial transcripts are acceptable.

Question: At what exact time on the due date will the application be closed?
Answer: The application will automatically close at 11:59 PM PST on **January 15, 2019**. The application must be finalized and submitted. Letters of reference must be received by January 22, 2019.

Question: My letter writer did not upload his/her letter of reference by the deadline, what should I do?
Answer: Letters of reference must be received by the deadline. It is the responsibility of the applicant to follow up with their letter writer well in advance of the deadline. We send a request for a letter of reference to the email you list on your application. Please be sure that you enter the correct address. Reference request emails are automatically generated and sometimes get caught by SPAM filters. Please ensure that your letter writer knows to look for an email from csneerc@uw.edu. If you have any problems please contact us right away. As a courtesy, we send reminder emails to all letter writers a week before the deadline. However, it is your responsibility to make sure all your materials are submitted. Do not assume that because someone said they would write a letter for you that it will be done. We do not grant extensions for any reason.

Question: How will I know when my application is complete?

Answer: You will receive an automatically generated email when you submit your application. When each of our two referees submit the online reference form on your behalf, you will also receive an automatically generated email letting you know that the form has been submitted. Note: All automatically generated email messages about your application will be from csneerc@uw.edu. If you aren't getting these messages, check your SPAM folder.

Question: I am having problems with my online application, who should I contact?
Answer: We are sorry to hear that and are happy to help you.
- If you have a general question or issue, please contact Dr. Chudler by email at chudler@uw.edu
- If you need technical help with the online application, please contact our web administrator Armin at csneerc@u.washington.edu.
- Please note: If you wait until the last minute to submit your application, and then encounter a problem, we will not have time to assist you before the deadline has passed. In this case, your application will not be accepted. Our deadlines are firm; we do not grant extensions.

Question: Classes at my school start before the end of the program, can I leave early?
Answer: The research symposium is on the Wednesday of the last week of the program. You may leave on Wednesday night or on Thursday, but not before.

Question: When will I hear whether I have been selected for the REU?
Answer: We expect to make decisions by March 1st.

Question: Who will evaluate my application?
Answer: The education staff at the CNT, faculty members associated with the CNT, and students on the Student Leadership Council will review applications.

Question: What are the selection criteria?
Answer: We will take into account coursework and grades when we look at applications, but we are especially interested in your answers to the essay questions and your letters of reference. Therefore, we suggest that you put some thought and research into your responses, and choose your references wisely.

Question: If I am not selected this year, can I apply again next year?
Answer: Yes.

Question: How will I be assigned to a lab?
Answer: The education staff will try to match students with labs based on their expressed interests. However, most labs will take at most two students, so it may not be possible for everyone to get their first lab choice.

Question: Who will be my mentor?
Answer: Depending on the lab, you may work primarily with a graduate student, a post-doctoral trainee or a faculty member.

Question: How do I get paid?
Answer: REU students are paid every two weeks, preferably through an electronic bank deposit.

Question: What kind of housing is provided?

Answer: Students will be housed in on-campus apartments. Every student will have his own room and will share the apartment with other students of the same sex. The apartments are furnished and have kitchens and access to laundry facilities. However, cooking and eating utensils, bed linens and towels are not provided.

Question: Is food included?
Answer: A meal plan is not included, students are responsible for their own meals.

Question: If I want to live somewhere else can I be given a housing allowance?
Answer: No. If you choose not to live in the provided housing you will not be compensated.

Question: Will we have access to the library and the gym?
Answer: Yes, you will have access to these facilities.

Question: Will I need a car?
Answer: No, you should not need a car, and parking is not provided. City buses run frequently in and around campus. Grocery stores, banks, and restaurants are within walking distance of the apartments. Seattle is also very bicycle friendly.

Question: I have read through this entire document and I still have a question. Who should I contact?
Answer: Contact Dr. Chudler by email at chudler@uw.edu. If you need technical help with the online application, please contact our web administrator, Armin, at csneerc@u.washington.edu