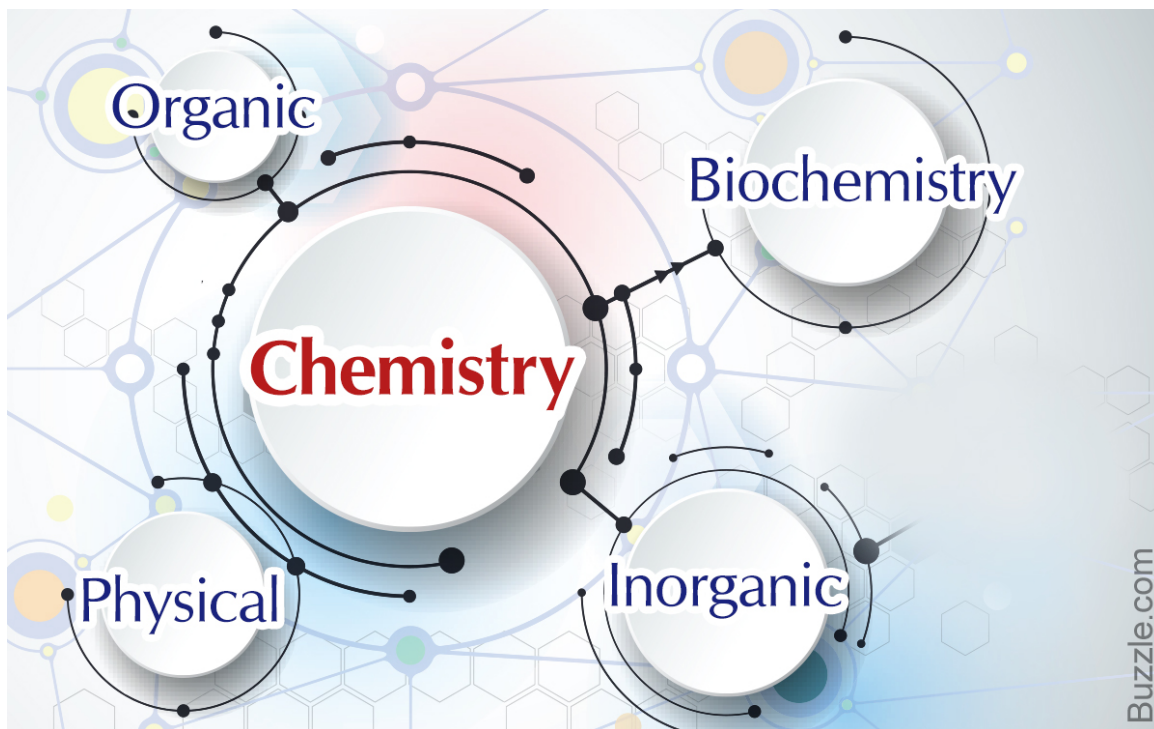


# Finding Off-Campus Summer Research Opportunities in Chemistry (and Related Disciplines)

Nov. 15, 2019

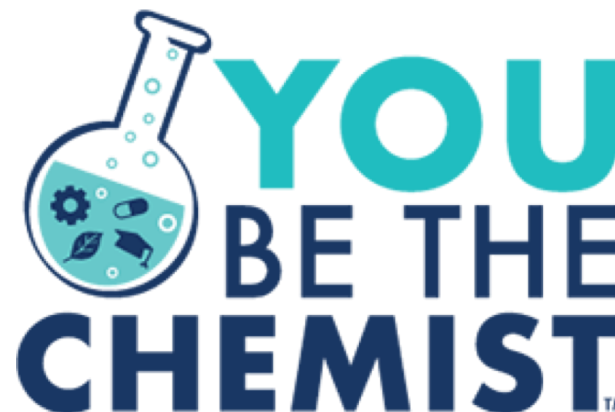


# General Info



- Typically 8 – 10 weeks in a research lab working on a project with a mentor
- Stipends vary, ~\$4500
  - \$5000 for the summer (sometimes travel and housing is provided)
- At universities or sometimes companies
- Summer programs often include community-building with other students, seminars, info sessions
- End of program often includes poster presentation that you can also give at Carleton's Research Celebration in October.

# Who Should Apply



- Any student interested in
  - Learning whether they enjoy research.
  - A potential future in science.
  - Going to graduate school.
  - Going to Medical School (especially MD/PhD)
- International students will need to do an extra course (3 credit) after returning – discuss with OIL and department faculty

# What Not To Worry About

- The start date of the programs as advertised (apply first, negotiate after you are accepted if they start before our term ends).
- Specific knowledge of exactly what you want to do. This is about getting research experience, not about knowing your future path in detail.
- GPA – apply no matter what. Don't make the decision for the program, let them do it.
- Having prior research experience. These programs are about getting it, not necessarily having had it.
- Citizenship status (with caveats)
  - If the site doesn't give clear info, ask them
  - Ask a faculty member to inquire for you

# When and How to Apply

- As soon as programs are available
- Typical deadlines are ~now – March
- Winter Break is the right time to start
- Apply to lots of program (~10) at a variety of types of institutions in a variety of geographical areas
- You will need:
  - Personal statement
  - Transcript
  - Letters of recommendation (~2) from STEM faculty



# How and When to Ask for Letters

- Identify faculty members who know you as more than just a face in the crowd (you had one or more classes with, lab with, or other interactions).
- Ask for letters as soon as possible (before winter break!), your application list need not be final.
- Create a list of programs and deadlines to give to your letter writers (emphasize when the first deadline is). Include forms and envelopes if needed.
- Provide other requested info (transcript, draft personal statement, interests, etc.)
- Applications typically ask for who letter writers are, and they prompt for submission.

# Where To Find Opportunities

- [The Weekly Beaker](#) (click the [research tab](#))
  - Updated weekly on Wednesdays
  - If you are not signed up, sign up on sheet to be added.
- The [Department Webpage – Research sub-page](#)
- [National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates Sites](#)
- [American Chemical Society Listing of Research Experiences, Internships, and Co-ops in Chemistry and Related Fields](#)
- [UROP, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program: a general listing of many nation-wide undergraduate research opportunities maintained by the University of California, Irvine](#)
- [The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology](#)
- [American Chemical Society, Directory of Graduate Research](#) (Click on the REU Search link)
- [Científico Latino](#)
- Chemistry Department Resources:
  - Discussions with faculty
  - Attending Department seminars (and lunches with visitors)

# Other Ways To Get Funding

- [Kolenkow-Reitz Fellowships](#)
  - Deadline: likely end of winter term
  - Funds you to work in a specific lab/program off campus. You must have a connection with a PI in order to apply.
- [Career Center Internship Funding](#)
  - Deadline: likely early spring term
- [Summer Science Fellows](#)
  - Deadline: early winter term
  - Only first-years and sophomores can apply
  - Funds two summers of research at Carleton or elsewhere



# Questions?

- Feel free to talk with any chemistry faculty member for advice.
- Talk to faculty in other departments if you are interested in research in other disciplines.

## **Part 2, On-Campus Positions:**

Friday, Jan. 10, 2020, 3:30pm,

Evelyn M. Anderson 121 – We will discuss on-campus summer research opportunities with chemistry faculty as well as application procedures.

