



Frequently Asked Questions

Applications for the MAA Grant Programs:
National Research Experience for Undergraduates Program (NREUP)

Q: I am a student. How I can apply for NREUP?

A: Applications are accepted from universities / faculty. You can discuss this opportunity with your mathematics faculty and see if they would be interested in submitting a proposal and leading this research project.

Q: In the NREUP Request for Proposals, it is stated that, as part of the documentation to be submitted with the application, "The names, addresses, ethnicities, and home institutions of the minority undergraduates must be specified." Do students have to be recruited and selected before the application is submitted?

A: Usually, students for summer research programs are selected before the application is submitted. However, by the time funding decisions are made in late March - early April, some students might have made other summer commitments. NREUP sites will have a chance to replace students whose summer plans have changed on the award negotiation stage. Such a change should be explained by the project director and approved by the MAA.

Q: Who qualifies as an "underrepresented minority" for NREUP?

A: There is no set of descriptors that can be entirely defining as a minority, and if the faculty advisor believes that students in question should qualify, but the students do not fit neatly into the "usual" categories, then they should make a case in their proposal. Ethnic/racial identity is self-reporting, and for NREUP's purposes, should follow the categories of the [U.S. Bureau of the Census](#). White and Asian students are not considered "underrepresented groups" in mathematics.

For the purposes of NREUP, the students must be citizens or permanent residents of U.S. or territories.

Q: Would women or students with disabilities be considered a minority for NREUP?

A: No. Although women and/or students with disabilities are underrepresented in mathematics, the challenges they face are very different from those that ethnic minority students face. NREUP is structured in such a way as to help ethnic minority students to continue the study of mathematics, and we were very explicit about this focus in our proposal to NSF. For this reason, NREUP does not consider other underrepresented groups for the purpose of this grant.

Q: Can students from universities other than a host institution participate in a NREUP?

A: Students do not have to attend the host university. This is to the discretion of the participating professor. If a student wishes to participate in an NREUP, he/she should consult any faculty member in the department who may be interested in designing and operating a research program to apply and host through that institution. If no faculty member applies or is awarded a program, the student may contact the director of another university's program that is local or closest to him/her asking to participate. NREUP will not cover long-distance travel for students to join a program.

Q: Is it a requirement or a suggestion that participating students have just completed their sophomore year?

A: This is meant to allow directors to accept students with less experience than might be required at a "typical" REU site. It is not a requirement.

Q: As some proposed projects are interdisciplinary in nature, is this program restricted to only math majors or would mathematically talented students in related majors also be able to participate?

A: Any student with sufficient background in mathematics is welcome to participate in the program. These students should be expected to *do* and not simply *use* mathematics during the program.

Q: How do I apply for this grant?

A: The application for Summer 2020 will open on December 4, 2019. More information can be found [here](#) in the Submission of Proposals section.

Q: Do I need to include F&A (indirect) cost with my application?

A: Yes, please include your institution's indirect cost on top of the maximum direct cost budget of \$27,500 when applying to be considered.