The University of Arizona’s Graduate College administers undergraduate summer programs that provide excellent research training and graduate school preparation through:

- 10-week, intensive research experiences under the guidance of top UA faculty mentors
- Professional development and graduate admission workshops
- A free professional GRE workshop and onsite GRE testing
- Social opportunities and a support network of like-minded peers
- Poster session, oral presentation, and abstract writing.

Eligibility requirements:
- Class standing
- US citizen or permanent resident
- 3.0 GPA or above
- Strong interest in pursuing graduate education, particularly in earning a master’s or PhD

See brief program descriptions on reverse.
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES CONSORTIUM (UROC)

UROC is committed to helping students make the most of their undergraduate education and successfully enter and complete graduate studies. The types of experiences that help students achieve success in the job market upon graduation are the same as those that help them gain admission into graduate and professional schools. Before deciding the next move, it’s important to plan. Ask yourself the tough questions. Who am I? What are my skills? What do I like? What do I want to do?

Always strive to do well academically. Your GPA matters, especially at the beginning of your career. But what really matters is the depth and breadth of your knowledge and skills and your ability to apply and adapt that foundation to practical problems in your life and work over a lifetime.

Utilize the resources available to you. It’s good to start with your friends and parents, and even Google. But don’t stop there. Get to know your advisors and faculty members, and let them get to know you.

Explore your interests by setting goals for yourself and seeking internships and research experiences. Again, this is about you and what you like and what you want to do with your life. It is likely that you will meet more professionals at the UA than you will ever meet in one place again who care about your individual success and are trained in and passionate about helping you achieve your goals.

Intentionally explore occupations, fields of study and work. How could you ever possibly know what exists out there for you if you do not explore?

We frequently share admission tips, funding announcements, and program opportunities through social media.

UROC seeks to increase graduate school access for students from groups underrepresented in graduate education, including first generation college students, students from low income families, and students within various fields of study. Funding amounts and selection criteria vary from program to program, as determined by institutional or grant regulations.

The programs listed below share a common application. The priority application deadline for UA students is November 15, allowing students to be considered for UROC-PREP and STAR which start in January. All other programs start in June. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. The final application deadline is February 1.

UROC-PREP is a year-round undergraduate research and mentoring program for UA students who have a strong interest in pursuing a research-oriented graduate degree (Master’s or PhD). There is a spring semester writing intensive component that leads into summer research and concludes with a one-unit graduate school preparation course in the fall. Students interested in professional school (i.e. MD, JD, DVM) are not eligible. In order to be considered for UROC-PREP, students must meet the priority application deadline of November 15.

Student Affairs Research Program (STAR): STAR, a partnership between the UA Graduate College & UA Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, is a year-round program open to UA juniors and seniors of all disciplines, including social science, humanities, fine arts, and STEM. In order to be considered for STAR, students must meet the priority application deadline of November 15.

Summer Research Institute (SRI) is open to juniors and seniors of all disciplines, including social science, humanities, fine arts, and STEM.

Minority Health Disparities (MHD) focuses on health issues that affect minority communities in a disproportionate manner and is open to junior or senior biomedical majors interested in continuing their education at the PhD level.

Maximizing Access to Research Careers (MARC) provides research, mentoring, financial, and academic support for undergraduate students who are underrepresented in the biomedical and behavioral sciences to improve their preparation for high-caliber graduate training at the Ph.D. level. Benefits include training and financial support for the last two years of enrollment at UA.

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