

Finding, Preparing, and Supporting REU Mentors



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Finding mentors

- Ask for volunteer mentors (list dates, website, objectives of program)
- Request that volunteers give title and description of potential research projects (to match student applicants)
- Seek out mentors for particularly good students (if they haven't volunteered)
- Have mentors sign agreement to achieve program objectives

Preparing and Supporting Mentors

10. Provide mentors with a schedule and timeline of events.
(Understand and realize time commitment.)
9. Encourage mentors to speak with potential students first and choose a “best fit”. *(Mentors are engaged at the start of process)*
8. Encourage mentors to design an educational and useful project. (Appropriate scope, matches student ability/interest, valuable project.)
7. Provide ALL mentors with a support network.
(Mentors meet and have an opportunity to discuss how things are going.)
6. Outline expectations for mentors and students.

Preparing and Supporting Mentors

5. Encourage mentors to communicate regularly with their students.
4. Ask mentors to pay attention to students work and detect problems. (*Discuss roadblocks in research, articulate steps in thinking process, ask questions*).
3. Encourage mentors to support their student's professional development. (*Discuss career goals, introduce to colleagues, etc.*)
2. Encourage mentors to have interns present and publish work.

Preparing and Supporting Mentors

1. This is a **FUN** and **REWARDING** experience for **ALL**.