Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Faculty Award

The Mississippi INBRE Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) Program provides support to faculty at Mississippi Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs) and Emerging Research Institutions (ERIs) to engage undergraduate students in biomedical research. The SURF award is made to the faculty mentor, who proposes and directs the research project and selects the undergraduate student who will participate in the fellowship.

SURF awards support faculty-led research projects that provide undergraduate students with meaningful, hands-on research experiences while advancing the research and scholarly activities of the faculty member and institution. Through close mentorship, students gain experience in research design, methodology, data analysis, scientific communication, and responsible conduct of research.

Faculty applicants must identify their proposed SURF scholar as part of the application process. Selected scholars will participate in Professional Development and Enrichment (PDE) activities provided by Mississippi INBRE throughout the summer. These activities are designed to enhance students' research skills, professional development, and preparation for graduate and professional education.

SURF scholars are required to present the results of their summer research at the Mississippi IDeA/EPSCoR Conference (MIEC), which will be held during the last week of July 2027.

Faculty Eligibility

Applicants must be faculty members engaged in biomedical research at eligible Mississippi PUIs or ERIs. Faculty currently funded as Principal Investigators on an MS-INBRE Research Project or Pilot Project are not eligible to apply.

Program Duration

June 1 - July 31, 2027

Funding Provided

- One month of summer salary and fringe benefits for the faculty mentor
- Student salary ($6,000) and fringe benefits
- Research supplies

- Poster printing costs
- Travel support for the faculty mentor and SURF scholar to attend MIEC
- Applicable institutional indirect costs

Application Requirements

- Two-page research plan
- Budget and budget justification
- AOR approval letter
- Identification of the proposed SURF scholar

Program Limitations

- One SURF application per faculty member
- One SURF scholar per faculty member
- Faculty currently funded as PIs on MS-INBRE Research Projects or Pilot Projects are not eligible
- Faculty may not submit applications for multiple SURF scholars

Application Deadline

March 1, 2027