

SMASH FAQs - Frequently Asked Questions

Should I apply if I do not yet have research experience?

Yes! Our program aims to do the most good by providing opportunities to students who have the potential to gain the most through this experience.

Is the letter of recommendation due at the application deadline?

Yes. Letters will be accepted after the deadline, however your application may be disadvantaged if the letter has not arrived before application review.

How will my reference submit the letter of recommendation?

After you submit your application, the system will automatically email your reference to request a recommendation. A link will be provided to your reference for submission of the letter of recommendation.

Is financial support for meals provided?

Yes! \$1500 in flexible spending dollars will be put on the ND ID card that can be used towards meals on campus.

I do not have the funds to pay for a flight ticket to get to Notre Dame. Should I apply?

Yes! Travel costs are included as part of the program support. Staff at Notre Dame will collect your information and book your travel arrangements. You also have the option to drive.

I am an international student. Should I apply to the SMASH REU?

No. International students are encouraged to apply to the NDnano NURF program (<https://nano.nd.edu/opportunities/ndnano-undergraduate-research-fellowships-nurf/>) and/or the ND iSURE program. (<https://ndi-sa.nd.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=10096>).

I am a domestic undergraduate student that is not a US citizen or permanent resident. Should I apply to the SMASH REU?

No. Domestic students that are not US citizens or permanent residents (including DREAMers and DACA students) are encouraged to apply to the Notre Dame Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP). <https://graduateschool.nd.edu/admissions/summer-research-opportunities/>.

I am an undergraduate student at Notre Dame. Should I apply to the SMASH REU?

No. The SMASH REU spots are reserved for non-Notre Dame undergraduates. You can search for other REU programs nationwide here: https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/reu_search.jsp