

## **Frequently Asked Questions About UROP**

### **Is UROP only for students interested in majoring in pre-medicine?**

No. There are research projects available for students in almost every discipline from English and Art History to astrophysics and biology. Faculty from all of UM's schools and colleges participate. Check out our [Sample Projects Page](#) on our website for some ideas of the research you could do.

### **How much time does UROP require?**

The average student works on a research assignment 8-12 hours per week. Some students may work as few as 5 or 6 hours per week, while some work as many as 15 hours per week. This time is in addition to the research seminar every other Wednesday night from 6:00-7:30 p.m. (or 5:30pm – 7:00pm if you are in the Junior/Senior Program).

### **Can I take UROP for work-study and credit?**

Work-study students may register for 1 credit hour of UROP to receive academic credit for the research seminars and other program related activities, however you may only receive work-study funding for the hours you work on your research. You can NOT take UROP for work-study and credit at the same time.

### **How many credits can I earn for UROP?**

Students can register for UC 280 or ENG 280 for one academic credit per three hours worked on the research project. Example: If you work on your research project 10 hours per week, you could earn 3 credits for the term. The maximum number of academic credits you may earn for UROP research is 8 credits. Students usually register for 2 or 3 credits per term.

### **Can I register for UROP before I find a project?**

No. You will not be able to register for UC280 until you find a project and know how many hours per week the project requires you to work. The average number of credit hours UROP students enroll in will be 3 credit hours. Therefore, do not register for more than 15 credit hours of other courses or 3 courses. Work-study participants will register for 1 credit hour of UC280 once they find a project. The project search process will begin in the Fall, so for now all you can do is plan your schedule accordingly.

### **If I am a Work Study student, how much will I be paid?**

If you qualify for Work Study funds you can apply your Work Study award to get paid an hourly wage for the time spent on the research project. Students earn \$8.50 per hour their first year and \$9.00 if they participate in UROP a second year.

### **How can I figure out how many hours I can work per week to earn my Work Study award?**

To calculate the number of hours you need to work per week, divide your work-study award amount by the hourly wage you will be paid. The answer is the total number of hours you can work throughout the semester. Dividing this number by the number of weeks you have available to work in the semester will give you the number of hours per week you should be working. The average work-study award requires 10-12 hours of work per week.

### **Can I take UROP for only one term?**

UROP is designed to be a year-long program. Thus, students should plan ahead to include UROP in both their fall and winter schedules.

### **What are the other UROP requirements in addition to the research?**

You will be required to attend a biweekly (as in every other week) peer research seminar which meets alternate Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30 p.m. (or 5:30pm – 7:00pm for Junior/Senior Program). In addition you will be required to complete research journals, and present your research at our annual spring research symposium.

**How is my grade determined?**

At the end of each term, students participating in UROP for academic credit will receive a grade from your faculty advisor who will evaluate your work. This constitutes 80% of the grade that appears on your transcript; your peer advisor determines the other 20%. Peer advisors will determine the 1 credit grade for work-study students along with faculty input.

**Will UROP affect my GPA?**

Yes. You will be graded at the end of the year. At the beginning of the year, you may feel overwhelmed with establishing your schedule and managing your time to meet your commitments. Research on the UROP program has indicated that students who participate in UROP actually average a higher GPA than students who do not participate. For this reason we will not provide a letter grade on your transcript until you have completed the research project at the end of the year.

**How do I get a research project?**

At the beginning of Fall term, you will meet with your peer group for an enrollment workshop where the process of finding a research project is explained. Then you will have access to the Research Project Books which list all of the projects available for the year. It will be your responsibility to identify projects of interest and to set up an interview with the faculty contact. We will help you prepare for the interview and create a resume. The faculty select students from the applicant pool.

**What are the Advantages of participating in UROP?**

Working with a faculty mentor and building a relationship with faculty outside of a classroom setting provides students with a better understanding of the academic, social and research climate of this large university community very early in their academic program. Students develop a keen understanding of how research is conducted and applied, are better able to talk with faculty about academic concerns, learn to know students with similar interests, identify academic and career interests and are privy to many special events and activities which enrich a student's university experience.

**Can I Drop UROP if it's not Working Out?**

Students drop UROP for a variety of reasons, primarily because they have not allowed enough time in their schedule to accommodate the time UROP requires. We encourage you to speak with your UROP Peer Advisor before you drop the program to ensure that you have explored all your options.

**What if I don't participate in UROP this year?**

You may apply to participate in UROP as a third or fourth year student (but not as a graduate student). However, you should be aware that space is limited for third and fourth year students. We only admit about 60 Juniors and Seniors a year, whereas we admit about 500 sophomores a year.

**Still have more Questions?????**

1. Contact the UROP Office: 615-9000
2. Stop by: 1190 USB (by the Dental School)
3. Contact us by e-mail at [urop.info@umich.edu](mailto:urop.info@umich.edu).
4. Check our website: [www.lsa.umich.edu/urop](http://www.lsa.umich.edu/urop)  
**Click on *Current Students* and/or *Prospective Students***