

Guidance on how to get involved in UROP can be found at: [www.imperial.ac.uk/urop](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/urop)

**UROP is a flexible environment aimed at maximising the ability of staff and students to collaborate in a way that suits both parties.**

- There is no standard or template UROP. Most UROPs are obtained through individual contact with academic staff, because until staff and student discuss the potential to create a UROP the opportunity does not exist (and is why many UROPs are not advertised). Be prepared for polite refusals, to persevere, to perhaps wait a year for that ideal UROP (develop your research network and opportunities may follow!!!) Good luck in finding that research opportunity.
- While the summer of 2022 saw a return to mostly on campus activity a return of coronavirus might impact on any [plans for the summer of 2023](#).
- If you have a query about the UROP process please email: [urop@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:urop@imperial.ac.uk)

**Imperial College’s 2023 Summer UROP Bursary Scheme will open in early January: eligibility criteria apply. Essentially Imperial undergraduates ONLY.**

- **DEADLINE** for bursary applications will be in mid-Feb: <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/students/fees-and-funding/undergraduate-funding/loans-and-grants/funding-for-placements/urop/>
- **The department supervising a UROP does not need to have registered the UROP in order for a student to apply for a bursary.**
- **Suggestions of other sources of funding (not exhaustive):** <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/urop/how-to-get-involved/funding/sources-of-funding/>

**Quick points to note about UROP:** <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/urop/how-to-get-involved/>

**Eligibility:** <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/urop/what-is-urop/> (scroll)

If you are new to the idea of pursuing some undergraduate research **perhaps start with a chat with your personal tutor**. Review [motivations for doing a UROP](#).

- UROP is an extra-curricula activity normally undertaken during the summer vacation (*some staff might consider a term-time UROP*) **within** Imperial College London.
- Most UROPs involve second and penultimate year students. First and final year students can get involved at the discretion of academic staff.
- UROPs are either advertised (*UROP website or more often locally in depts*) or are personally negotiated by a student with a member of staff. The vast majority are not advertised on the UROP website, although some interesting stuff does appear. IMPORTANT: Be led by your research interests or by skills you wish to develop.
- Local selection procedures apply if more than one student expresses an interest in devising a UROP with any one academic member of staff (whether advertised or not).
- You are not confined to your own department. ➤ The usual duration (excluding gaps) is 6-10 weeks full or near to full-time. ➤ however, a viable UROP can also be delivered in a shorter period, and indeed a longer period (*longer periods may also be part-time during term-time*).
- The duration (*and the inclusion of breaks/holidays within a summer UROP*) and hours of attendance are matters for negotiation with the supervisor.
- Vacation UROPs ought to take place between 1 July and 30 Sept. They can start in June at the discretion of your home dept (so ask your UG Student Office).
- A supervisor or the host Dept may decide to provide a bursary to support a student with their living costs but it is not a requirement as UROP is not employment. However, supervisors who are unable to provide a bursary ought to be willing to support a bursary application to a third party, including the College’s scheme, and dept-level schemes where they exist.

**NEWS** (November 2022): The Dept of Life Sciences will no longer allow UROPs to take place within the Dept of Life Sciences where no bursary has been organised. Queries to the Dept of Life Sciences' Education Office ([j.andrewes@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:j.andrewes@imperial.ac.uk))

- Bursary schemes have eligibility criteria (e.g. year of study; nationality; minimum/maximum length) so check carefully. Imperial’s scheme is for Imperial undergraduates only.
- Secure funding first – if that is your plan - before worrying about having the host department register the UROP (*the aim of the “registration” is to ensure appropriate management of the confirmed funded or unfunded **extra-curricular** research experience.*) If a host group/lab has queries about UROP (what is it?) they can email [urop@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:urop@imperial.ac.uk)