Michigan State University
Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP)
Summer 2026 Application

SROP is a gateway to graduate education at Michigan State University (MSU). The goal of the program at MSU is to increase the number of undergraduate students who pursue graduate study. MSU SROP helps prepare undergraduates for graduate study through intensive research experiences with faculty mentors and other professional development activities.

MSU SROP helps undergraduate students gain a competitive advantage as a graduate applicant by:
- Intense research activities that broaden technical and presentation skills
- Opportunities to present research results at a program symposium and in local research meetings
- Seminars that introduce students to a range of research fields across disciplinary lines
- Workshops on graduate admission procedures and professional development
- Informal social gatherings that provide a forum for student and faculty exchange of ideas and perspectives

All participants must be available to work 40 hours each week during the program. Due to the intense research schedule, MSU SROP participants are discouraged from working an additional job or taking additional courses during the summer program.

Program Eligibility:
- Be a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident
- Be enrolled in a degree-granting program at a college/university in the U.S., Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, or other U.S. territory
- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher (on a 4-point scale)
- Have completed at least two (2) semesters of undergraduate education
- Have at least one semester of undergraduate education remaining after completing the program
- **Have an interest in pursuing a graduate degree in one of MSU's graduate programs: https://bit.ly/MSUGradprograms**

Application Requirements:
- Resume (1 page)
- Unofficial College Transcript(s)
- Two (2) faculty letters of recommendation
- **Statement of Research Interest** (single-spaced, 400-600 words): Research motivations, Academic exposure, Work experience
- **Personal Statement** (single-spaced, 400-600 words): Current career goals, Reasons for pursuing graduate study at MSU, How participation in MSU SROP will help achieve career goals, How background has influenced career goals, Leadership skills, and milestones

Program Details and Benefits:
- Program dates are 5/15-7/25, 2026
- *Up to $5000* stipend for the program
- Opportunity to participate in MSU SROP Short Courses (May 17-22, 2026)
- Opportunities to present research at the AGEP Student Success Conference hosted by MSU

Submission Instructions and Due Date: Completed MSU SROP application materials *must be* **RECEIVED** *by* **February 10, 2026**. Letters of recommendation can be mailed or emailed separately. *Demographic information collected within the application is optional. The MSU SROP program is open to all students.

Please submit application materials to:
MSU SROP Program • The Graduate School • 466 W. Circle Drive • Chittenden Hall Room 130
Michigan State University • East Lansing, Michigan 48824 **Or email at msusrop@grd.msu.edu**

Michigan State University
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Short Course Descriptions

Physics Immersion Overview

This will be a one-week program in which students will be immersed in the cutting-edge areas of physics and experimentation. Participants will also receive training in Python computer language as a part of the experience.

Bioinformatics Short Course Overview

MSU SROP online Bioinformatics Short Course runs over 5 days, with an investment of 8 hours per day. With educational content, activities, and virtual software, participants will receive a solid foundation in how bioinformatics can inform our understanding of disease, personalized medicine, and multiple species from animals to plants. Topics such as genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, toxicology, and structural biology contribute to proficiency in the field of bioinformatics. Participants will also attend presentations from national experts in the field of bioinformatics and get advice on the graduate school application process. Student team groups will develop a case study analysis as a part of the course and prepare a written and oral report. The final research report and group presentations will be due on the final day of the boot camp. Participants will also receive a certificate of completion as a part of the course.

This course will be useful for students interested in biomedical engineering, cellular biology, science communication, and clinical trial development.

Human Resources Immersion Overview

This immersion program will be conducted by Dr. Angela Hall, Associate Professor, at the School of Human Resources and Labor Relations. During this week, students will learn the basics of organizational scholarly research, including data analysis. Students will be placed into teams in which they will work on a research project involving the differential work experiences of minority workers and job seekers. At the end of the week, students will present parts of a research paper and receive feedback on their presentation.

This course will be useful for students interested in labor relations, applied psychology, and business management.

Stats in Society Short Course Overview

The Stats in Society Bootcamp is an intensive, one-week course providing training in statistical methods for students participating in SROP. The goal of the course is to provide training in statistical thinking, and the ability to use quantitative analysis to describe some aspect of the world. Students will apply what they learn in making a group presentation and paper using a dataset provided.

Michigan State University
Summer Research Opportunities Program
Program Application

STUDENT INFORMATION:

Student Name: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Gender*: _____ **Race/Ethnicity*:** _____

Permanent Address: _____ **City, State, Zip:** _____

Current Address: _____ **City, State, Zip:** _____

Home Number: _____ **Cell Phone Number:** _____

Email Address: _____

U.S. Citizen: Yes ☐ **No** ☐ **(OR) Permanent Resident: Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **Other:** _____

Are you a first-generation student?: ☐ Yes ☐ No

CURRENT ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

College/University: _____ **City, State:** _____

Department: _____ **Major:** _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ **Cumulative Credit Hours:** _____

Year in School: _____ **Expected Graduation Date:** _____

OTHER INFORMATION:

How did you find out about the MSU SROP Program? _____

Have you previously participated in the Big Ten Academic Alliance Summer Research Opportunities Program (SROP)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what campus: _____

Do you participate in undergraduate support programs?

☐ MARC ☐ McNair ☐ Howard Hughes ☐ Meyerhoff Scholars ☐ LSAMP ☐ RISE ☐ Other: _____

Post-baccalaureate areas you are interested in:

Graduate Programs: ☐ Masters ☐ Doctoral ☐ Medical-Dual Degree (MD-Ph.D or DO-Ph.D.) Discipline: _____

Professional Schools: ☐ Business ☐ Law ☐ Medical ☐ Dental ☐ Pharmacy

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Michigan State University • East Lansing, Michigan 48824
Phone: (517) 432-3268 • msusrop@grd.msu.edu

Faculty Recommendations

FACULTY RECOMMENDATION 1: (Letter of recommendations can be sent separately)

Faculty Name:_____   **Department**:_____

College/University:_____   **Time Acquainted with Applicant:** _____

Address:_____   **City, State, Zip:**_____

Phone Number:_____   **Email:** _____

FACULTY RECOMMENDATION 2: (Letter of recommendations can be sent separately)

Faculty Name:_____   **Department**:_____

College/University:_____   **Time Acquainted with Applicant:** _____

Address:_____   **City, State, Zip:**_____

Phone Number:_____   **Email:** _____

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT:

Events and activities associated with MSU SROP can occur every day of the week, Sunday through Saturday, potentially in the mornings, afternoons, and evenings. Additionally, research responsibilities sometimes require work at any hour of the day and any day of the week. If admitted to MSU SROP, will you be able to participate fully in ALL program activities?   ***Yes*** ☐ ***No*** ☐

The program dates for 2026 MSU SROP are 5/15-7/25, 2026. Are you able to participate in the entire program?
      Yes ☐ ***No*** ☐

If no, state the reason: _____

Do you wish to be considered for any of the following MSU SROP Short Courses? Click all that apply.

- ☐ Human Relations Immersion
- ☐ Physics Immersion
- ☐ Bioinformatics Course
- ☐ Stats in Society Course *{Default for most MSU SROP students}*

STUDENT CERTIFICATION:

I certify that all information provided is accurate and correct and that this application is complete.

_____   _____   _____
      (Print) **Student Name**   *(Signature)* **Student Name**   **Date**

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