Clark Summer Research Program

Program Overview

The Alexander Clark Summer Research Program is a summer research program for incoming freshmen at UT Dallas. Students join active research groups and launch their research careers through an intensive summer experience. The objective of the Clark Summer Research Program is to enrich the academic experience of our students by providing an opportunity for them to conduct hands-on research with some of UT Dallas’ nationally recognized faculty and talented undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral students. This program seeks to instill the value of research in undergraduate students so that they remain actively engaged in research activities that contribute to the University and their fields of interest throughout their academic and professional lives.

"Clarkies" have gone on to successful careers in academia and industry and earned Goldwater Undergraduate Research Fellowships, Fulbright Research Awards, NSF Graduate Fellowships, and other recognition and financial support. These students consistently point to the Clark Program as the starting point for their research excellence. Students often remain with their research group beyond the summer term, often continuing for several years or through their entire undergraduate degree.

UT Dallas is a leading institution for scientific research and has attracted the brightest minds since its founding. The Anson L. Clark Foundation established The Clark Summer Research Program in 1968, more than 20 years before the first freshman class was admitted to UT Dallas. We encourage aspiring researchers to join us for a unique summer experience that will frame your educational endeavors and provide context for your undergraduate coursework. At UT Dallas, education is not confined to the classroom and there is much left to discover.

Program Eligibility

First-time-in-college freshmen may apply to join the Clark Summer Research Program. Applicants must have been admitted to UT Dallas at the time of the application submission.

Clark Summer Research Program applications are considered in three waves, with deadlines of January 3, March 1, and April 1.

The application will open in November.

Program Objective

The research and lab experiences afforded to students in this program are rarely offered at the undergraduate level. Students are actively engaged in serious research activities that give them a realistic view of the work conducted in their academic disciplines. Each student is assigned a faculty research mentor for the duration of the program.