

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates position in the Rosvall laboratory at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN

The National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program aims to involve undergraduates in meaningful ways in ongoing research programs. The Rosvall lab seeks **two currently enrolled undergraduate students** to conduct independent research in May – July 2025. Each REU fellow will join one PhD student in field and laboratory research on wild tree swallows. We are broadly interested in the behavioral and physiological mechanisms by which animals respond to diverse environmental challenges, including competition for territories and coping with heatwaves. Each intern will participate in collecting key project data in the field, including for example behavioral observations, handling birds, taking blood samples, and analyzing data back in the lab. More information about the type of work we do can be found at rosvall.lab.indiana.edu/

Timeline and location: Starting mid-May and last for **10 weeks**. Exact dates TBD, but participants should start as soon as possible after courses end in May. Field sites are located in rural areas near Bloomington, Indiana. Housing is available in a campus dorm or off-campus apartment.

Participant Support: The REU Fellow will receive a **\$6000** stipend for the 10-week project term. Housing and travel costs will be covered.

Expectations and Eligibility: Current freshmen, sophomores, juniors and non-graduating seniors majoring in the biological sciences, who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents, are eligible to apply. The applicant must have a vehicle and be willing to use it for fieldwork. Applicants must be willing and able to be employed full-time for the complete 10-week fellowship (no simultaneous enrollment in classes is permitted). For this project, you must also be willing & able to work outside, in sometimes hot/humid and sometimes cold/rainy conditions, with long days during the peak of fieldwork. Students from colleges and universities without large graduate biology programs are encouraged to apply. The ideal candidates will also have: (a) completed relevant coursework, such as ecology, animal behavior, evolution, biostatistics, or field biology; (b) reliability, attention to detail, people-skills, self-motivation, strong communication skills, a commitment to team science, and flexibility. Research experience is not required but is preferred – experience handling birds would be ideal. Please include any prior field experience or research work if relevant.

Apply by google form, by Feb 28, 2025: <https://forms.gle/XS8z6bY7wAqNgVaj7>. This form includes places to upload:

1. One page, single-spaced statement on (a) your long-term career goals, (b) why you wish to participate in this REU, (c) your research interests and experiences, (d) strengths you can bring to the fellowship, and (e) explanation of your previous field or research experience.
2. CV or resume
3. An unofficial transcript
4. One name, email, and phone number for an academic or professional reference.

Review of applications will start March 3, 2025 and will continue until the position is filled. Inquiries can be directed to PhD Student Atalanta Ritter (acritter@iu.edu).