THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO MATHEMATICS REU

This is a call for applicants to the University of Chicago Mathematics summer REU. Our REU has been in operation since 2000, but before 2015 it was limited to University of Chicago participants. It is considerably larger than others, now with around 150 participants each summer. Using NSF RTG funding, we opened it to the wider community, especially to groups traditionally underrepresented in mathematics, starting in 2015. Despite having no promised funding for them, we will keep it open to non-University of Chicago students this summer.

The REU is run by University of Chicago faculty members and graduate students and is focused on exposing participants to a broad swathe of mathematics at the highest level. It is not focused on original undergraduate research per se, but all participants must write a paper on a topic of their choice; the papers are usually expository but can and often do contain original research. Participants are closely mentored, mostly by graduate students but some by faculty.

Chicago's REU has served as a springboard for current graduate students at most of the top departments of mathematics in the United States. We are now using the resources of Chicago's research community to reach out to a few ambitious undergraduates with talent and a love of mathematics, especially those without current direct access to such a research community.

In 2026, as in previous years, we are using the AMS application service, but only for non U. of C. applicants.

https://www.mathprograms.org/db

Required information includes:
Whatever is prescribed by the AMS including CV,
Research Statement,
(This should be a statement of purpose along with some description of your mathematics background)
Transcript,
At least two reference letters.

While non-U.S. citizens are very welcome to apply, if we later obtain funding, it will almost surely be limited to U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

Address all inquiries to may at math dot uchicago dot edu