

California Current Ecosystem – Long Term Ecological Research Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) - *Summer 2026*

Program Overview:

The California Current Ecosystem (CCE) Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) site is an NSF-funded interdisciplinary group of scientists, students and educators working to understand and communicate the effects of long-term climate variability and climate change on the California Current pelagic ecosystem (see <https://cclter.ucsd.edu/> for more information). We seek well-qualified and highly motivated undergraduates with interests in biology, chemistry, physics and/or computer science to participate in interdisciplinary oceanographic research. Starting in summer 2026, selected undergraduates will work with scientists at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO - La Jolla, CA) in research related to CCE LTER projects. Opportunities for undergraduates may exist in several areas related to conducting mesocosm experiments, nearshore measurements, sample and/or data analysis, bioinformatics, and computer modeling.

See <https://cclter.ucsd.edu/reu/reu-summaries/> for descriptions of previous student research projects. **Salary:** \$18.25/hr for full-time position (40 hrs/week); **10-12 weeks starting on or after June 22, 2026.** Start time and duration is flexible, although preference is given to applicants who can commit at least 10 weeks to the program. Students will also receive a \$2500 stipend towards housing expenses.

NOTE: THIS IS A PAID INTERNSHIP THROUGH UCSD/SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY. IT IS NOT CONSIDERED A UC STUDENT POSITION. THIS INTERNSHIP IS NOT COVERED BY UC WORKER'S COMPENSATION

Qualifications:

Required:

- College level background in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, or Computer Science
- Ability to follow oral/written instructions
- Good interpersonal skills

Preferred:

- Upper division status in a science major
- Interest in interdisciplinary oceanographic research
- Interest in pursuing earth or ecological science research via graduate school

Students must be registered each quarter working (or be registered for Spring '26 to work Summer '26). Must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States or its possessions. Must provide proof of health insurance as this intern position is not considered UCSD employment therefore not covered by UCSD worker's compensation. Cannot hold a UC student position concurrently so would have to separate from UC employment to be eligible. Must sign waiver of liability form.

Applying:

Please fill out the **2026 CCE REU application form (to include resume and cover letter):**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/18inbW98pMh3G5dBsaAbImV7gQB9fBJz7UnV9-FaFw2U/viewform>

Email Robin Westlake Storey, CCE LTER Program Office Coordinator, at rwestlakestorey@ucsd.edu with any questions regarding the application process.

Review of applications will begin January 2026 (through March 2026).

Please indicate if you are applying to multiple REU programs and need a decision sooner.

Application period closes January 31st, 2026.