

## **Q&A: Stem Pathways Webinar**

### **How would contact a peer mentor?**

All students who register for the STEM Connections Program in the Fall will be assigned a peer mentor.

### **On the UCR stem page there is no link for the 2020-21 application, when can we sign up for stem?**

The 2020-2021 link will open closer to the beginning of Fall 2020, so in late September you will receive an email inviting you to join. Active STEM Connections participants are eligible to apply to become a peer mentor after their first year at UCR. Applications for your cohort would be open in Spring 2021.

### **Hello! Are CNAS courses going to be held in person or online?**

Currently we still have no official update on the status of in-person/virtual classes for Fall 2020.

### **Are there additional fees for the program?**

No, all these resources are completely free. There is no fee to join the STEM Connections Program.

### **What is the peer mentor to mentee ratio? Does each person get their own mentor or are they shared?**

Typically it is a 15-1 ratio, I try my best to pair you up with a peer mentor that either has a similar career goal or major as you.

### **I attended Transfer orientation webinar on Wednesday and they said we can make an appointment with our advisor counselors; however I get an error when I try to set an appointment through the advising page on CNAS. How can I make an appointment to discuss my classes?**

My understanding is that until you attend HOT (Highlander Orientation for Transfers) in early September you won't be able to meet with your advisor, they will be going over major requirements and all registration processes at that time.

### **Is the summer bridge program going to be online this year?**

Currently we moved the program to the very end of summer and shortened it, in hopes that we will be able to still come on to campus. We are also looking for labs on campus that would allow undergraduates to participate virtually.

**Are there any requirements to join the program?**

The only requirement to join the STEM Connections Program is that you are a CNAS student and you register.

**Aside from RISE Summer Program, will the Bridges to Baccalaureate Program (B2B) also be open for Summer?**

We have not received an update about B2B yet, but if they do decide to accept students they will be incorporated into RISE just as last year.

**For the CNAS summer bridge program are there certain number of applicants who will be able to participate?**

Usually we accept 15.

**To participate in CNAS program, student needs to enroll in a class for CNAS?**

Not necessarily, anyone in CNAS can join, one of the resources we provide is a Transfer Transition Seminar (1 unit P/NP) that students can enroll in.

**So only 24 spots for undergraduate UCR, or 24 spots are guaranteed and other spots could be taken into concern?**

The UCR School of Medicine accepts about 60 students and the class sizes are expanding every year. Of those 60 seats, 24 are reserved EXCLUSIVELY for UCR alumni only.

**If we decide to get a masters before med school, would we qualify for one of those 24 spots?**

Yes as long as your B.S/B.A is from UCR. Those spots are available to any UCR alumni or student that has completed after at least 6 quarters through UCR.

<https://somsa.ucr.edu/haider-program>.

**Does summer bridge offer research opportunities this summer for students who are majoring in engineering?**

CNAS is the College of Natural and Agricultural Science, Engineering majors are housed in a different college BCOE (Bourns College of Engineering) they have their own Transfer program very similar to ours.

**Does the summer bridge research application have a space to submit a letter of recommendation?**

No letters of recommendation are required. Just contact info in case we have follow up questions.

**Is the summer bridge application deadline still June 1?**

Yes still June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Where can we find a schedule of classes for Fall 2020 or a pathway of classes for Biology students?**

Visit [cnasstudent.ucr.edu](https://cnasstudent.ucr.edu) to learn more about your major and [classes.ucr.edu](https://classes.ucr.edu) for the class schedule.

**When will the application for the summer bridge program open?**

The application is open right now! On our website [stem.ucr.edu/sbtr](https://stem.ucr.edu/sbtr) deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Are we going to be a part of Research or is it going to be information regarding research?**

Hi, we will be pairing you with a UCR Faculty member who will provide remote research. You will contribute towards a real research project.

**If we are accepted into the Summer Bridge to Research Program do we have to stay on campus?**

Hello, the decision has been made to host Summer Bridge (and RISE) online, so no you do not need to be on campus for the research. You may need to be on campus for other activities, orientations, etc. depending on any stay-at-home restrictions.

**For the Summer Bridge to Research Program do we stay on campus and also how do we apply?**

Hello, you do not need to stay on campus for the SBTR program. You can find the application on our website [stem.ucr.edu](https://stem.ucr.edu).

**For the summer bridge program is it first come first serve?**

Hi, SBTR is not first come first serve. We will review all applications. We may review early applicants for early acceptance.

**Is RISE funded by NSF ? If yes, what division of funding?**

Hello, RISE has multiple funding sources. Some positions may be funded by an NSF grant, but we also have donor funds, institutional funds, and grant partners with NIH, USDA, etc.

**How many applicants do you usually receive for the summer bridge program?**

Hi, in the past few years we've received about 100 applicants.

**How do we apply to RISE?**

You can find the application on our website at [stem.ucr.edu](http://stem.ucr.edu). I have also emailed the application to all admitted UCR CNAS Transfer students, check the email you have registered with UCR!

**Should we be getting emails for the BCOE transfer program?**

You can contact Janet Cabrera or BCOE directly regarding their Summer Bridge program, it is administered separately from CNAS.

**So is the SBTR program going to be held remotely?**

Hi, yes SBTR (and RISE) will be entirely remote this summer.

**What gets our chances higher to get into the CNAS summer bridge program?**

We review all applications holistically. You will have the opportunity to differentiate your application through the written sections (personal statement, interests).

**Is it the same peer mentors every year or can new people apply to be a mentor?**

We typically have different cohorts of mentors every year or so as we graduate!

**For the Summer Bridge to Research Program do we stay on campus and also how do we apply?**

Hello, you do not need to stay on campus for the SBTR program. You can find the application on our website [stem.ucr.edu](http://stem.ucr.edu).

**How do we join the STEM pathways program?**

Hi, all CNAS transfer students will receive an email from me (Nhi Tran) to join the STEM Connections Program in the summer. We do not have programming in the summer other than the Transfer Transition Seminar. You can also learn more and register on the [stem.ucr.edu](http://stem.ucr.edu) website.

**Is summer bridge research opportunities for this summer for only premed undergraduates? So this program is not geared towards other STEM students correct?**

Hi, summer bridge research is for all CNAS transfers, you do not have to be pre-med. Engineering majors are not included in the specific program we host because we have separate colleges, however BCOE does host their own summer bridge. Any student is welcome to do research in any field or discipline they are interested in, I would recommend you speak to a STEM peer mentor or Academic Advisor upon transferring to learn more about the opportunities.

**How do we find professors to do research with?**

There are many ways you can get involved in research at UCR, there are formal applications to do so, but also there are other ways to become involved in research, for instance, I asked a friend who was in research and he asked his professor and I was able to join. It really just involves being flexible and willing to ask peers, and professors as well as looking for applications.

There's many ways! Asking professors of courses you enroll, emailing professors directly, networking with other students in labs. If you attend the Transfer Transition Seminar there will be a class dedicated just on research engagement.

**Can I apply for the summer bridge program next summer or is this only open for first-time transfer?**

Hello, Summer Bridge is only open for you this summer as an incoming transfer student. There are many other summer research experiences you can apply for and can learn about through the Transfer Transition Seminar or Peer Mentors.

**Do you guys prefer students who have research experience, or do you leave those spots for someone who hasn't had experience yet?**

Hello, no prior research experience is needed. Everyone is encouraged to apply!

**What's the difference between summer bridge and RISE?**

RISE is an umbrella research program that includes Summer Bridge and other programs. Summer Bridge is one of many programs under the RISE umbrella and is specific just to CNAS transfer students.

**If we would like to start in the winter instead of fall can we still apply for the summer bridge program?**

Unfortunately, Summer Bridge is only open to students starting in the Fall quarter. We plan to offer the Transfer Transition Seminar in the Winter to help you with opportunities (including research) as well.

**What kind of limitations can we expect compared to a normal circumstance in the program provided that summer bridge will be remote this year?**

Hi, great questions. This will depend on the type of research and faculty you get paired with. We plan to provide an enriching research experience regardless and will provide updates as we receive them.

**A general question. Is there any way we can reach out to any of you in the future for advice during the year?**

You can find our emails on [stem.ucr.edu](mailto:stem@ucr.edu)!

**Are there any resources to find pre-med extracurricular activities such as, perhaps volunteering at hospitals and perhaps clinical positions such as scribing.**

Yes!! There's tons of resources, starting from the pipeline programs that are directly from the UCR school of medicine (<https://medschool.ucr.edu/pipeline-programs>). My favorite pipelines are the Health Coach program, Future Physician Leaders, Mini Medical School, and Medical Scholars Program.

For help with finding clinical positions, our on campus resource health advising center (<https://se.ucr.edu/hpac/overview>) and other student organizations are able to help you out. For becoming something like an EMT, I recommend Highlander EMS, but there's tons more! (<https://highlanderlink.ucr.edu/organization/highlanderems>)

**What is the deadline to apply for summer 8 week research as a transfer?**

June 1st is the Summer Bridge deadline.

**How many spots are there for the SBTR program?**

There are about 15 students selected each year.

**How could we apply for the TTS for this summer? When I click to register for the seminar it says "Registration for the Fall 2019 NASC 092: Transfer Transition Seminar has closed. Please email [nhi.tran@ucr.edu](mailto:nhi.tran@ucr.edu) directly with any questions."**

Once you SIR, you will receive an email invitation from our Stem coordinator, Nhi Tran, for the Transfer Transition Seminar.