• If a faculty member requests anything of you, be sure to respond and forward that information immediately.

• If you do not receive a response two weeks after you’ve sent your initial email, follow up with a shorter email again expressing your interest and saying that you look forward to hearing from them.

• If you do not receive a response 10 days to 2 weeks after that, go in person to the lab and look for a graduate student from the lab (most labs have websites that include pictures of all group members) and talk to the graduate students about your interest in doing research.
**WHAT IS IT?**
- Opportunity to apply classroom learning to actual research and gain experience related to your field
- Generally a minimum of 2 semesters is preferred by faculty
- Competitive and limited...so be sure to apply several months before the semester in which you’d like to research

**THINGS TO KNOW**
- Some positions are paid, most are not paid and some offer academic credit
- For questions about academic credit, doing a senior thesis, or departmental distinction, speak with your PI (principal investigator/ faculty supervisor)
- You may want to consider offering to start as a volunteer in order to work your way into an official undergraduate research position

**HOW TO APPLY**
- **FIND PROFESSORS YOU’RE INTERESTED IN**
  - Write a great cover letter and resume
  - Follow up

**FIND PROFESSORS**
- Professors or TAs whose classes you’ve had
- Search faculty directories for faculty involved in interesting research topics
  - Chemistry: chemistry.illinois.edu/directory/faculty-by-type
  - CHBE: chbe.illinois.edu/directory/
  - Positions posted on bulletin boards or websites

(You will find the majority of positions by directly contacting professors or TAs/graduate students!)

**YOUR APPLICATION**
- Write a great cover letter email (examples in SCS Career Services)
- Attach your résumé as a pdf
- Attach your unofficial transcript if you’re a major and/or have a strong GPA in major courses