ABOUT TREX

Offered by the Cockrell School of Engineering’s Equal Opportunity in Engineering Program (EOE), the Texas Research Experience (TREX) Program provides upper division undergraduate students the opportunity to engage and actively participate in research.

Students receive an enhanced undergraduate academic experience by learning about careers in research, as well as product development in an academic setting. Students are also exposed to the benefits of obtaining a graduate degree in engineering, and learn how to become a competitive graduate school applicant.

ABOUT EOE

Established in 1970, the Equal Opportunity in Engineering Program seeks to increase the diversity of the Cockrell School student body by supporting students from historically underrepresented population groups in Texas, as well as students whose backgrounds or experiences will contribute to the overall diversity of the school.

ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for TREX, students must demonstrate exceptional academic competence, leadership skills and the ability to balance multiple responsibilities.

Applicants must also be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident; be currently enrolled in the Cockrell School of Engineering; have completed at least 45 credit hours with at least 30 hours completed at UT Austin; receive an A or B in all technical labs completed while at the university; and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater.

HOW TO APPLY

Students interested in applying must complete the online application at www.engr.utexas.edu/oe/research/trex, as well as fill out the required downloadable documents and forms. One letter of recommendation, two written personal statements and a resume must also be sent to the TREX program coordinator.*

*Submission information on back

PARTICIPANT REQUIREMENTS

If selected, participants must

- Perform 10-14 hours of research/lab work each week.
- Attend mandatory training prior to the first day of fall semester.
- Enroll in a one-hour weekly course for both semesters.
- Submit monthly progress reports.
- Receive a satisfactory mid-year evaluation to continue.
- Complete an abstract, poster and PowerPoint presentation.
- Attend the EOE Excellence Awards Banquet.
WHAT ARE ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO PARTICIPATING IN TREX?

TREX students get to participate in a series of roundtable discussions featuring outside presenters who address graduate school application tips, careers in academia and advice from industry.

TREX is also a paid research placement, which means participating students may earn up to $1,300 each semester.

WHO DECIDES TREX RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS?

During the application process, students are invited to submit their top three faculty choices based on research interests. If selected for the program, the TREX program coordinator works to place students on a project that matches their research interest, however, placement with a preferred professor is not guaranteed.

DO STUDENTS EARN CREDIT FOR PARTICIPATING IN TREX?

The TREX weekly course is not for academic credit, however, some engineering programs will allow you to claim credit for your TREX research.

“TREX enabled me to attain the skills and confidence needed to perform well in a lab setting, and honed my abilities to communicate effectively as a scientist. My participation in TREX was instrumental in my acceptance at a summer research internship at Harvard Medical School.”

Chinedu Anyaeji, B.S. BME 2011

CONTACT

Submit completed applications to:
Jessica Jimenez, Program Coordinator
Equal Opportunity in Engineering Program, TREX
The University of Texas at Austin
1 University Station, C2100
Austin, Texas 78712-0284

E-mail: eoe@engr.utexas.edu
Phone: 512-471-5953
Office: Ernest Cockrell Jr. (ECJ), Room 2.102
Web: www.engr.utexas.edu/eoe/research/trex

E-mailed or faxed applications will not be accepted.