

Survey of REU Principal Investigators
[This is for those selected for the REU Registration System]

Pilot Test of an REU Electronic Data System

[opening page]

On behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF), Mathematica Policy Research is pilot-testing an electronic system to collect data from students who apply to the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Sites program for the 2018 cycle.

We are inviting REU Sites to participate in this pilot test. For your discipline to be selected for the pilot—and for the pilot to succeed—we need as many REU Sites to participate as possible. **Please volunteer!**

The next page describes the pilot study and asks you to respond to 4 short questions to gauge your interest in participating.

Thank you for considering this invitation.

Click **HERE** to continue.

About the REU Pilot

[to appear on page 2]

The pilot will test two approaches through which students will provide information when they apply to REU Sites:

- A “registration system,” which will be a web-based system through which students will provide basic background information *before completing the regular applications to REU Sites*
- A “common application system,” which will enable students to complete their entire application online (for one or more REU Sites)

By participating in the pilot, you will be helping NSF determine which of these two approaches will be the most effective, most efficient, and least burdensome for future implementation across the REU program.

Your discipline is being considered to pilot the **REU Registration System**.

To participate, you will need to adapt your application procedures as follows:

- Step 1—Before students apply to your REU Site:

You must direct students to the REU Registration System, a website that Mathematica will provide.

Students will need to access this website to enter basic information about themselves (such as contact and demographic information) and receive a unique “NSF ID.”

- Step 2—When students apply to your REU Site:

Students will follow the regular application procedures established by your REU Site **except for one change**: all applicants must provide you with the NSF ID assigned to them through the REU Registration System.

- Step 3—After students apply to your REU Site:

You will enter applicants' NSF IDs into an administrative page in the REU Registration System and record application decisions (such as whether applicants were admitted or rejected) and program attendance (whether admitted applicants actually participated in your Site's program).

Advantages of Participation for PIs

- By testing one of the systems, you will provide feedback that will enable NSF to decide whether to adopt such a system.
- You will be able to use and comment on the data collected and on the system's analytical features for producing data reports and conducting analyses.
- You will be able to determine whether the system generates less work for you and your staff than using your usual application process.
- You and your staff will receive ongoing technical support from Mathematica's research team to use and leverage the system's analytical features.

Please click **HERE** to start the survey and indicate whether you are willing to participate in the pilot.

[to appear on page 3]

Survey

- (1) Are you willing to participate in the pilot test of the **REU Registration System** for the 2018 cycle (typically, summer 2018) of your REU Site?
Yes No [if no, skip to the Thank You page]

[to appear on p. 4]

- (2) When do you anticipate opening and closing applications for your REU site?
I expect to **start** accepting applications on __ (month) ____ (year) for 2018.
I expect to **stop** accepting applications on __ (month) ____ (year) for 2018.
- (3) If you had an active REU Site last year, approximately how many applications did you receive?
_____ number of applicants

[to appear on page 5]

- (4a) Please provide your contact information as **Principal Investigator**:
First name: _____
Last name: _____
Position: _____
Institution: _____
Email: _____

Phone: (xxx) xxx-xxxx

(4b) We will need to contact you *or* someone else you designate to **coordinate participation in the pilot**. Please provide the following information for the person we should contact:

Please contact the PI named above [\[skip to the last page\]](#)

First name: _____

Last name: _____

Position: _____

Institution: _____

Email: _____

Phone: (xxx) xxx-xxxx

[\[to appear on the last page\]](#)

Thank you for completing this survey!

If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact the Mathematica research team at REUPilot@mathematica-mpr.com or 800-232-8024.

Survey of REU Principal Investigators (PIs)
[This is for those selected for the REU Common Application System]

Pilot Test of an REU Electronic Data System [opening page]

On behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF), Mathematica Policy Research is pilot-testing an electronic system to collect data from students who apply to the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Sites program for the 2018 cycle.

We are inviting REU Sites to participate in this pilot test. For your discipline to be selected for the pilot—and for the pilot to succeed—we need as many REU Sites to participate as possible. **Please volunteer!**

The next page describes the pilot study and asks you to respond to 5 short questions to gauge your interest in participating.

Thank you for considering this invitation.

Click **HERE** to continue.

About the REU Pilot [to appear on page 2]

The pilot will test two approaches through which students will provide information when they apply to REU Sites:

- A “registration system,” which will be a web-based system through which students will provide basic background information *before completing the regular applications to REU Sites*
- A “common application system,” which will enable students to complete their entire application online (for one or more REU Sites)

By participating in the pilot, you will be helping NSF determine which of these two approaches will be the most effective, most efficient, and least burdensome for future implementation across the REU program.

Your discipline is being considered to pilot the **REU Common Application System**.

To participate, you will need to adapt your application procedures as follows:

- Before the new application system is launched:

You will be able to review the application system to verify that it meets your needs and, if necessary, request that it incorporate additional application questions or materials. (The system is being modeled after existing REU Site applications.)

- Once the new application system opens in fall 2017:

You will direct students to a website (to be provided by Mathematica) through which they will complete a full REU Site application.

- After you make admissions decisions:

You will access the same site to record application decisions (such as whether applicants were admitted or rejected) and program attendance (whether admitted applicants actually participated in your Site's program).

- At any time during the pilot:

You will be able to download applications and generate reports based on application data.

Advantages of Participation for PIs

- By testing one of the systems, you will provide feedback that will enable NSF to decide whether to adopt such a system.
- You will be able to use and comment on the data collected and on the system's analytical features for producing data reports and conducting analyses.
- You will be able to determine whether the system generates less work for you and your staff than using your usual application process.
- You and your staff will receive ongoing technical support from Mathematica's research team to use and leverage the system's analytical features.

Please click **HERE** to start the survey and indicate whether you are willing to participate in the pilot.

[to appear on page 3]

Survey

- (1) Are you willing to participate in the pilot test of the **REU Common Application System** for the 2018 cycle (typically, summer 2018) of your REU Site?
Yes No [if no, skip to the Thank You page]

[to appear on p. 4]

- (2) When do you anticipate opening and closing applications for your REU site?
I expect to **start** accepting applications on __ (month) ____ (year) for 2018.
I expect to **stop** accepting applications on __ (month) ____ (year) for 2018.
- (3) If you had an active REU Site last year, approximately how many applications did you receive?
_____ number of applicants
- (4) Please indicate which of the following you would prefer (for the pilot):
 Allowing students to apply to as many REU Sites as they wish
 Limiting the number of applications that can be submitted by a student
Please specify the maximum number of applications: _____

[to appear on page 5]

- (5a) Please provide your contact information as **Principal Investigator**:
First name: _____
Last name: _____
Position: _____
Institution: _____
Email: _____
Phone: (xxx) xxx-xxxx
- (5b) We will need to contact you *or* someone else you designate to **coordinate participation in the pilot**. Please provide the following information for the person we should contact:
 Please contact the PI named above [skip to the last page]
First name: _____
Last name: _____
Position: _____
Institution: _____
Email: _____
Phone: (xxx) xxx-xxxx

[to appear on the last page]

Thank you for completing this survey!

If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact the Mathematica research team at REUPilot@mathematica-mpr.com or 800-232-8024.