



UNIVERSITY of
LOUISIANA
L A F A Y E T T E

Student Center for
Research, Creativity
and Scholarship

ADVANCE
STUDENT RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE

Use our website to learn more:

advance.louisiana.edu

Digital Version of this Handbook

[Advance SRP Faculty Handbook.docx](#)

Published July 2026



UNIVERSITY of
LOUISIANA
L A F A Y E T T E

**Student Center for
Research, Creativity
and Scholarship**

ADVANCE
STUDENT RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE

The Quality Enhancement Program of UL Lafayette

ADVANCE STUDENT RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (ASRE) PATHWAYS

WHY GET INVOLVED WITH ADVANCE?

Research Opportunities



It is highly likely that your department already encourages or requires research opportunities. ASRE Pathways creates the ability to have the University recognize, on a larger scale, the level of research being produced within your department.



Grants

Our office provides a prepared, standardized statement that can be added to the broader impact portion of external grants. We are supportive of all research endeavors and will help students and faculty connect.



Engagement

Students participating in ASRE approved co-curricular events have learned more soft skills. This creates a more engaged student making the learning experience enjoyable for both students and faculty.

**OUR GOAL IS TO HAVE A 5%
INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF
STUDENTS FORMALLY SEEKING
ASRE PATHWAYS DURING THE
26/27 ACADEMIC YEAR.**



WHAT IS AN ASRE PATHWAY?

ASRE Pathways are set guidelines of discipline specific curricular and co-curricular events that encourage research, skills, and dissemination within a student's field of study.



ADDING RESEARCH TO YOUR UNIV COURSE

Advance will help faculty design course embedded research experiences that are meaningful and manageable for freshman students.



GROW YOUR ACADEMIC IMPACT

Advance supports and awards faculty and staff as they share their discipline and mentor students.

**EMAIL US WITH ANY
QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE!
ADVANCE@LOUISIANA.EDU**

 advance.louisiana.edu

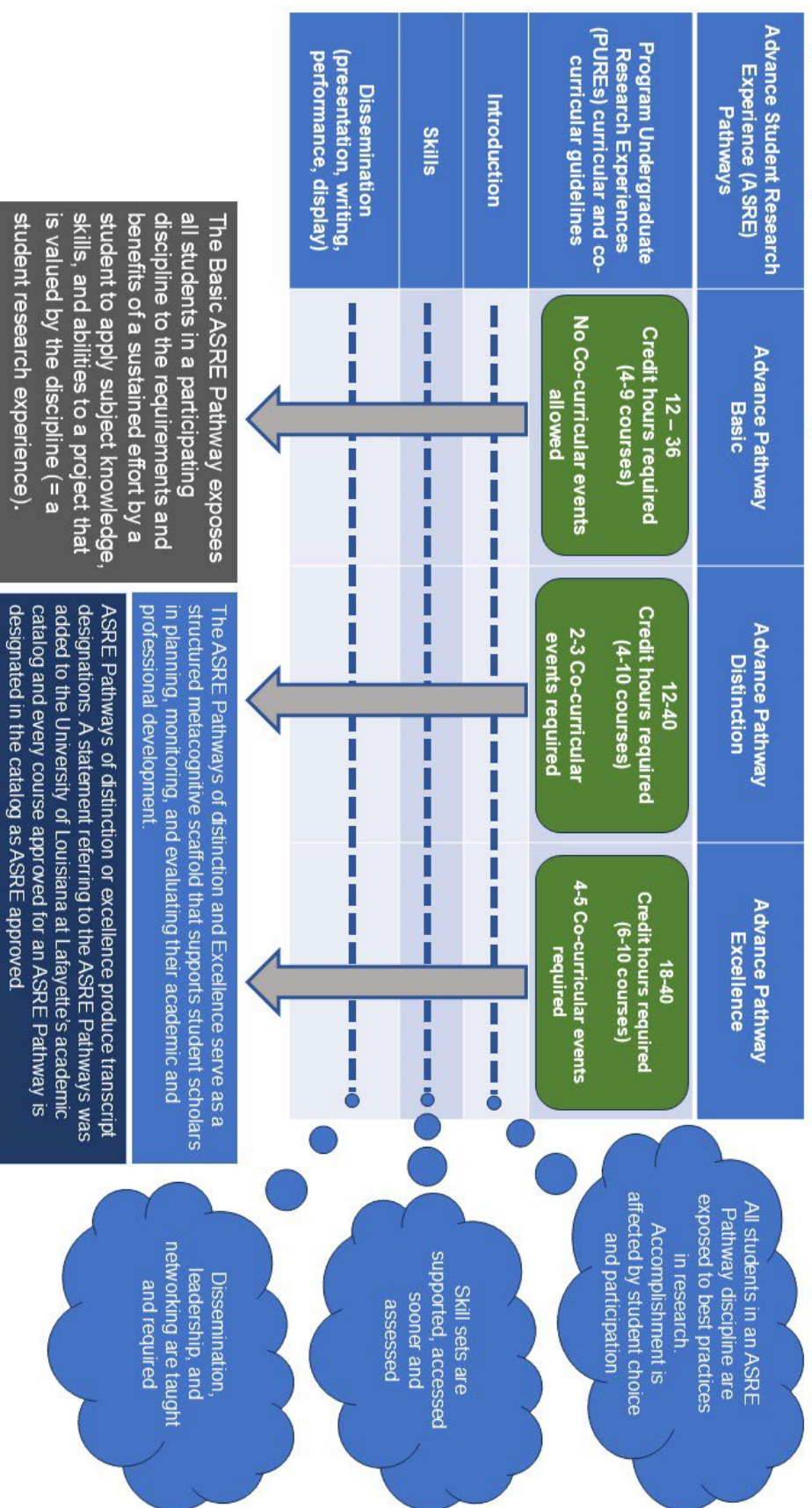
 Edith Garland Dupre' Library Room 102

At the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, undergraduate research is not reserved for a select few students. As a Carnegie R1 research university, we provide every student with the opportunity to discover, contribute and grow through meaningful faculty-mentored research, scholarship, and creative work.

In just six years, the Advance Student Research Program (Advance-SRP) has transformed undergraduate research into an institutional expectation that reaches nearly every academic discipline. In doing so, the program has strengthened the University's culture of discovery, advanced student engagement and success, and positioned UL Lafayette as a state and national leader in undergraduate research. As a top-tier research university, we have a responsibility not only to advance knowledge through faculty scholarship, but also to ensure students are active participants in discovery and innovation. Rather than scaling back our ambitions, we created a sustainable, academically inclusive model that integrated undergraduate research across STEM and non-STEM disciplines. Through faculty-mentored research, students learn to think critically, solve complex problems, manage projects, communicate effectively and work collaboratively — skills that prepare them to succeed in graduate school, excel in the workforce and lead in their professions and communities. These are the qualities employers seek, communities need, and research universities should cultivate.

This handbook describes the Advance Student Research Program (SRP) and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette's Advance Student Research Experience Pathways (ASRE-Pathways). Advance was originally developed through the institution's 2020 Quality Enhancement Plan. The goal of the original plan was to increase student participation in mentored undergraduate research and research dissemination. Due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, staffing changes, and reduced institutional resources, the program was restructured to support both institutional financial realities and student learning outcomes. Use this site to find and read the original Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP): [Quality Enhancement Plan 2020](#). The resulting framework became the Advance Student Research Experience (ASRE) Pathways. The pathways provide scalable, discipline-specific scaffolds integrating curricular and co-curricular undergraduate research activities across degree programs. By Fall 2026, 95% of the University's degree-granting programs have implemented ASRE Pathways, collectively developed by 48 degree-granting academic departments. The scaffolds align research learning pedagogies (introduction, skills development, and dissemination) with progressive levels of achievement (basic, distinction, and excellence) (See figure one), enabling broad student participation while recognizing advanced engagement through transcript designations. Beyond expanding access to undergraduate research, the redesigned program functions as a structured metacognitive tool that encourages students to set academic and professional goals, monitor progress, and apply learning strategies. Grounded in student persistence theory, high-impact practices, and research on self-regulated learning, Advance-SRP demonstrates how institution-wide undergraduate research infrastructure can be implemented with limited resources while simultaneously strengthening student engagement, persistence, and academic success.

Figure One: Diagram of ASRE Pathway Scaffold



Description of the Advance Student Research Experience (ASRE) Pathways

There are three pathways for students to follow in the Advance Program. The first pathway is basic and each degree-granting discipline that has adopted a pathway or PURE exposes 100% of their graduates to this pathway. The Basic pathway only includes curriculum. The pathways of Distinction and Excellence can be thought of as epi-curricular and parallel to each other. This means the student research experience (SRE) activities can occur within and /or on top of the student's curriculum.

Participation in the basic pathway will occur as part of completing a required curriculum and finishing a degree. Students choosing academic co-curricular activities that enhance their curriculum and academic experience will find that their activities are recorded, tracked, and assessed through the *Pathways* using the Campus Groups Platform. It is a goal of Advance-SRP that a constantly increasing number of students will choose to complete either the ASRE Pathway of Distinction or Excellence.

Goals:

1. ADVANCE SRE Pathway, Basic:

Suggested Course Embedded Undergraduate Research Experience:

- The CURE is embedded into the course curriculum.
- All students in the class engage in the CURE in some fashion.
- Outcomes of the CURE are unknown beforehand.
- Students work collaboratively as much as possible.
- CURE projects introduce students to the professional research methodologies of the discipline.
- Outcomes of the CURE are communicated to a stakeholder that is not the course instructor of record.

2. *ADVANCE SRE Pathway, Distinction*: Increase the number of students participating in advanced SRE projects that are course-embedded or mentored. The students' research or projects in this Pathway should require higher level pedagogy; for example, it is preferable that the students are involved in the design of the experiment rather than simply being tasked with data collection.
3. *ADVANCE SRE Pathway, Excellence*: Serves as a path of excellence and exceptional achievement. For this accelerated and honored Pathway, students must disseminate their research, creative, or scholarly works at multiple events or occasions internally, nationally, or internationally. Students can also publish works in a variety of genres that support their program of study.

More Critical Information about the ASRE Pathways

1. [UNIV 100 is included in all Pathways.](#) The Student Center for Research, Creativity and Scholarship (SCRCS) works with UNIV 100 staff focusing on introducing CUREs and critical thinking into all sections of UNIV 100. Supporting resources can be found here: [Welcome UNIV 100 Faculty! | Advance Student Research](#)
2. The academic Dean's offices have approved the Advance SRE Pathway from each program / department.
 - a. Courses included in each Pathway are designated **ASRE courses in Banner** *but* can be changed as needed in the future.
 - b. The ASRE Pathway of Distinction or the ASRE Pathway of Excellence from each department will include academic co-curricular events as requirements.
 - c. Each co-curricular event type is identified as approved by a department's Pathway scaffolding plan. [See co-curricular menu below]
 - Co-curricular events were identified when the department's plan was originally built. Co-curricular events require a specific faculty or staff member to serve as the approver. Student completion of an event will be recorded in the *Pathways* software (Campus Groups) (Similar to assigning a satisfactory or unsatisfactory grade).
 - Each department has assigned at least one faculty or staff member that approves co-curricular events.
3. Student participation in an Advance SRE Pathway:

Students register ONLY to complete an Advance SRE Pathway of Distinction or Excellence. This assigns students an **attribute** in Banner that will allow the Office of the Registrar and SCRCS to track them in *Banner, Degree Works and Campus Groups*.
4. Recording a qualifying co-curricular event.

A Student provides proof of their attendance and completion of an event in the Campus Groups platform. The appointed faculty or staff from the department reviews and approves. Then Advance-SRP approves and records completion of the event.
5. Completed pathways are approved by the Department, Advance-SRP, and academic deans. Then it is sent to the Registrar's office for processing and designation on the formal transcript.

To review individual pathways use this link:

[ASRE Pathways | Advance Student Research](#)

Examples: Co-Curriculum

Co-Curricular events/activities should be academic in nature.

Use different types of activities to distinguish between ASRE Pathway of Distinction or ASRE Pathway of Excellence.

Types and Sub-types of co-curricular activities:

- Conferences (Poster Presentation)
 - Departmental
 - University or College Wide
 - Regional
 - National
 - International
- Conferences (Oral Presentation)
 - Departmental
 - University or College Wide
 - Regional
 - National
 - International
- Exhibitions
 - Internal
 - External
 - Internal Juried
 - External Juried
- Co-ops (cooperative education programs focused on research within an industry-related discipline. Generally, it alternates between work and study experiences. Co-ops are traditionally full-time, paid positions. "Internship" differs because they refer to a one-term work assignment)
 - Internal to UL Lafayette
 - External to UL Lafayette
- Internships
 - Internal to UL Lafayette
 - External to UL Lafayette
- Competitions (Participation required, credit will not be given for attendance only)
 - Departmental
 - University or College Wide
 - Regional
 - National
 - International

- Workshops
 - Departmental
 - Advance (SCRCS)
 - University
 - Linked In
 - Library
- Training
 - University or Department
 - External to UL Lafayette
 - University Training Centers (i.e., CITI, IRB, Microscopy, Louisiana Studies, Ernest Gaines Center, Hilliard Art Museum, etc.)
- Mentored Research (Internal to UL Lafayette)
 - Volunteer
 - Scholarship
 - Paid from Faculty Grants
 - MUREs (mentored undergraduate research experiences)
 - SUREs (summer undergraduate research experiences, like NSF-REU)
- Mentored Research (External to UL Lafayette)
 - Volunteer
 - Scholarship
 - Paid from Faculty Grants
 - MUREs (mentored undergraduate research experiences)
 - SUREs (summer undergraduate research experiences, like NSF-REU)
- Leadership Experience
 - Departmental Service Events
 - Officer appointment in Departmental Club
 - SGA member
 - Student Tutor/Mentor
- Study Abroad

ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS TO SIGN UP IN PERSON IN DUPRE' LIBRARY ROOM 102. EMAIL US WITH ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE! ADVANCE@LOUISIANA.EDU

DEPARTMENTS AVAILABLE FALL 2026

College of the Arts

- Architecture & Design
- Dance
- Music
- Theatre
- Visual Arts

B.I. Moody III College of Business

- Accounting
- Economics
- Finance
- Hospitality Management
- Insurance & Risk Management
- Management
- Marketing
- Professional Land & Resource Management

College of Education

- Early Childhood Education K-3
- Elementary Education 1-5
- Kinesiology
- Middle School Education 4-8
- Secondary Education & Teaching

College of Engineering

- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Electrical & Computer Engineering
- Engineering & Technology Management
- Mechanical Engineering
- Petroleum Engineering

College of Liberal Arts

- Anthropology
- Criminal Justice
- English
- History
- Mass Communication
- Modern Languages
- Moving Image Arts
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Speech Pathology & Audiology
- Strategic Communication

Ray P. Authement College of Sciences

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Environmental Science
- Geology
- Informatics
- Mathematics
- Physics

College of Nursing & Health Sciences

- Health Information Management
- Health Services Administration
- Nursing

University College

- Honors



UNIVERSITY of
LOUISIANA
L A F A Y E T T E

**Student Center for
Research, Creativity
and Scholarship**

ADVANCE
STUDENT RESEARCH
EXPERIENCE
The Quality Enhancement Program of UL Lafayette

Define Undergraduate Research

*UL Lafayette defines a student research experience (**SRE**) as a sustained effort by a student to apply subject knowledge, skills, and abilities to a project that is valued by the discipline.*

Definitions people should know:

MUREs: Mentored Undergraduate Research Experience; sometimes also called UREs Undergraduate Research Experience.

This is often what students and faculty think of when the word “research” is used. Often only STEM students think this type of experience applies to them. Non-STEM students are often unsure or do not think “research” is part of their opportunities.

CUREs: Course-embedded Undergraduate Research Experience

The name describes the actions for this classification of SRE. There are some common ideas that any CURE should follow. This criterion is approved is approved by UL Lafayette’s administration and the Advance Program

Course Embedded SRE Criteria:

2. The SRE is embedded into the course curriculum.
3. All students in the class engage in the SRE in some fashion.
4. Outcomes of the SRE are unknown beforehand.
5. Students work collaboratively as much as possible.
6. SRE projects introduce students to the professional research methodologies of the discipline.
7. Outcomes of the SRE are communicated to a stakeholder that is not the course instructor of record.

Read more about MURE(URE) vs CURE: <https://www.science.org/doi/full/10.1126/science.1261757>

SUREs: Summer Undergraduate Research Experience

This is a summer program similar in design to an internship. The goal is to train undergraduate students.

PUREs: Program Undergraduate Research Experience: The Advance SRE Pathways that UL Lafayette is building in each department count as PUREs because they involve multiple events and types of experiences to complete.

Best Practices for distributing Student Research Support and/or Funding

Tips and Tricks: important information students need to know when applying for and using funds through the [Advance Undergraduate Student Support Grant or any other type of grant.](#)

Funding Distribution Requirement:

- Students must set up **direct deposit** with the University. Please use this **link** to set up direct deposit if you have not already done so.
- Students that do not remember to set up direct deposit will receive reimbursement by check that will be mailed to the address on file with the University.
- Reimbursements may take 1-2 months. Direct deposits occur at the end of the month, and it is the fastest way to receive funds.
- All due dates must be observed. Anything submitted after the due date may not be considered.
- Students must maintain a current mailing address with the University. Update your address in ULINK.

Receipts:

- We will need your receipts provided to us in PDF format only. Please note that credit and debit card statements are not acceptable proof of expenses. You want to make sure that your name is on all receipts when applicable (hotel, vehicle rental, Uber, flight, registration).
- All receipts must be itemized, meaning that each individual item that is purchased needs to be shown on the receipt.

Lodging:

- Hotel receipts must include the award winner's (student) name. If someone other than the award winner books the student's hotel room, the award winner's name must still be present on the final receipt for reimbursement.
- If the award winner (student) shares an Airbnb rental, be sure that all occupant names are present on the final receipt or itinerary for potential reimbursement. If more than one person stays in the Airbnb, the reimbursement is divided by the number of guests. The award only covers the student, not the entire Airbnb.

Flight:

- Award winners (students) provide a complete copy of their flight receipt. Flights may be booked through any website, and they should be the most economical option.
- Booking non-refundable flights is not recommended because flights that are not taken cannot be reimbursed.

Vehicle: Any rental vehicle reimbursement must be for a car rented in your name.

Parking: These charges can be reimbursed with an itemized (all charges indicated) receipt.

Uber: The Uber receipt must show all charges.

Fuel: Gasoline is reimbursable with a receipt.

Meals:

- Like all other receipts, meal receipts must show all items purchased (itemized).
- Meals should be purchased for the award winner (student) individually only.
- Alcohol is not reimbursable.

Miscellaneous:

- Allowable travel charges that can be reimbursed are flights, lodging, reasonable meal expenses (no alcohol or high-end restaurants), rental cars, fuel, parking, baggage, registration fees, taxi and ride share (Uber) expenses.
- Souvenirs are not reimbursable.
- Food bought for others is not reimbursable.