Should I apply for URAP?

☑ Do you have a project that is feasible for mentee(s) with no prior research experience?
☑ Are you willing to work with novice students to help provide their first research experience?
☑ Would getting a paid research assistant for this project benefit you and your project goals?
☑ Are you able to provide (and describe!) a mentorship environment where you meet with and provide feedback for the mentee(s) regularly?
☑ Are you faculty (tenure or non-tenure track) or a postdoc teaching undergraduate coursework AND going to be at Northwestern for at least six months after the grant ends?

How Your Application is Reviewed

Broadly, the application is scored with rubric criteria that focus on the mentorship plan and the mentee’s fit with the program goals.

Specifically, the committee evaluates:
1. The extent to which the mentee will have opportunities to frequently engage with the faculty mentor and receive feedback on their work.
2. The extent to which it is clear what the student will be doing on a day-to-day basis and how they will be trained to do these tasks.
3. The clarity on the skills the mentee will develop through this opportunity and how these skills will prepare the student for more independent work in the field.
4. Whether the application is consistent with URAP’s goals of providing opportunities for novice students – not students who already have related professional or academic research experiences.
5. The alignment between the student’s interests/goals and the mentor’s work, and how this opportunity will create mutual benefit.

If the review committee needs to make decisions within a limited budget, secondary budget priorities will be strong applications from traditionally underfunded fields (or those who made an argument towards the necessity of funding) or residential college faculty pairings.