

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH



Neuroscience Career, Graduate/Professional School, Research/Internship, & Extra-Curricular Guide 2023-24



DePaul University Neuroscience Program

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<https://csh.depaul.edu/academics/neuroscience/Pages/default.aspx>

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Student Clubs and Organizations

Make the most of your journey by getting involved, and connecting with others!

DePaul has a vast amount of student organizations for students wishing to get involved. There are many science-based organizations and clubs available. Please visit the Student Involvement website by logging in through DeHub at [Login \(campusgroups.com\)](http://campusgroups.com) to join and to learn more about all of the student organizations. Here are just a few:

- DePaul Neuroscience Club
- Nu Rho Psi – Neuroscience Honor Society
- Psi Chi – Psychology Honor Society
- Society of Physics Students
- DePaul Mathematics Club
- Computer Science Society
- Psychology Peer Mentors
- Pre-Med Pals
- Doctors without Borders

And, you definitely don’t have to stick to groups relevant to your major!

- Enjoy playing Esports? Give [DePaul Esports & Gaming](#) a try.
- Interested in art and architecture? Join [History of Art and Architecture](#).
- Have a green thumb? Volunteer at [DePaul Urban Gardeners](#) community garden.
- And MUCH more!

Study Abroad

Who can help? [Study Abroad Advisor](#), [Academic Advisor](#)

Note: See Experiential Learning (EL) section for info on how to use study abroad experience to earn credit toward the EL requirement.

Information about Neuroscience-specific study abroad opportunities can be found at: <https://csh.depaul.edu/academics/neuroscience/student-resources/Pages/Internships-and-Study-Abroad.aspx>

Please see the DePaul Study Abroad website for more study abroad opportunities, including short- and long-term options, all over the world! <https://offices.depaul.edu/global-engagement/student-resources/study-abroad/pages/default.aspx>.

Internships

Who can help? [Career Center](#) resources including [Career Advising](#)

Note: See Experiential Learning (EL) section for info on how to use an internship experience to earn credit toward the EL requirement.

Information about Neuroscience-specific internship opportunities: <https://csh.depaul.edu/academics/neuroscience/student-resources/Pages/Internships-and-Study-Abroad.aspx>

Please see the DePaul Career Center webpages for more information and assistance exploring internship opportunities: <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/jobs-internships/Pages/default.aspx>.

Research

Who can help? [Faculty Advisor](#), [Academic Advisor](#)

Note: See Experiential Learning (EL) section for info on how to use a research experience to earn credit toward the EL requirement.

Research Opportunities at DePaul

Faculty within the College of Science and Health often have positions available for undergraduates seeking research experience. We encourage students to contact faculty and explore the opportunity for research here at DePaul. Visit our Neuroscience Program website and read through faculty profiles to see the current research projects of our faculty members: <https://csh.depaul.edu/academics/neuroscience/research/Pages/default.aspx>

Visit the College of Science and Health Research website for college sponsored research opportunities, funding for your research, and other information: <https://csh.depaul.edu/research/undergraduate-research/Pages/default.aspx>.

You can also look for opportunities (mostly external) via Handshake, our online hub for all things college to career - jobs, internships, career fairs, events, mentors and more. Goal in mind: to help connect students to their dream career: <https://depaul.joinhandshake.com/>.

Getting Funded

DePaul and the College of Science and Health have several grant and fellowship programs to support students in undergraduate research.

Undergraduate Research Assistantship Program (URAP): If you are currently working with a College of Science and Health faculty member on a research project, or perhaps you are interested in joining a research group in the college, talk to your research mentor about the possibility of submitting an Undergraduate Research Assistantship Program (URAP) application. Winter/spring applications typically due October 15th. Summer/autumn applications typically due May 6th. More info at <https://csh.depaul.edu/research/undergraduate-research/Pages/default.aspx>.

Undergraduate Summer Research Program (USRP) of the College of Science and Health grants financial awards to undergraduate students in the support of summer research projects undertaken in collaboration with a faculty member. The program offers a complement to the typical classroom experience by giving students an opportunity to design a project, develop a proposal for competitive review, work closely with a faculty mentor on the project, and prepare results for presentation at the annual [CSH Undergraduate Research Showcase](#) as well as [DePaul Discoveries](#), the college's undergraduate research journal. Application deadline typically April 8th. More info at <https://csh.depaul.edu/research/undergraduate-research/Pages/default.aspx>.

The Dean's Undergraduate Fellowship is a 10-week paid summer research internship program for undergraduate students in the College of Science and Health. Fellows selected for the program are placed at world-class institutions in the Chicago area. Fellows participate in research projects onsite with a principal investigator during the summer. Internship applications are available on [Handshake](#). Students can apply for multiple sites. For questions or help with your application, contact the [Office of Advising and Student Services](#). The application deadline is typically February 15th. For current opportunities see:

<https://csh.depaul.edu/research/undergraduate-research/Pages/default.aspx>.

The DePaul University and Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science (RFUMS) Summer Research Program is a paid summer biomedical sciences research program for undergraduates on the Rosalind Franklin campus in North Chicago. Students are matched with a faculty member at RFUMS and conduct research in areas such as virology, microbiology, physiology, and neuroscience. For questions see the college website: <https://csh.depaul.edu/research/undergraduate-research/Pages/default.aspx>. The application deadline is typically in January for the following year.

Presenting Your Research

The annual [Undergraduate STEM Research Showcase](#) allows CSH students to present their research to the DePaul community.

The [Chicago Area Undergraduate Research Symposium \(CAURS\)](#) is an annual student-coordinated research symposium that is a partnership between several Chicago area universities.

[DePaul Discoveries](#) provides a forum for sharing CSH undergraduate student original research in a peer-reviewed, open-access academic journal. Share your research with the world and learn about the review and publication process! The deadline for submission is **February 1**. Before preparing a manuscript, please review the [online author guidelines](#).

The [Council on Undergraduate Research \(CUR\)](#) provides support and professional development opportunities for students, faculty, staff, and administrators. CUR's publications and outreach activities are designed to share successful models and strategies for establishing, nurturing, and institutionalizing undergraduate research programs. CUR offers consulting, mentoring services, and program review services to individuals, academic departments, school/colleges, and entire campuses.

The [Chicago Society for Neuroscience Conference](#) is an annual local day-long conference that features local scientists, their graduate students and undergraduate students. They host an undergraduate poster competition that NEU majors participate in often.



Credit for Experiential Learning

Who can help? [Academic Advisor](#), [Faculty Advisor](#), [Study Abroad Advisor](#), [Career Center](#)

Experiential Learning (EL) is a Liberal Studies Program requirement for all DePaul students. It's mentioned in this guide because study abroad, internships, and research are some of the most common ways to complete EL. A description of this requirement is found at <https://catalog.depaul.edu/undergraduate-core/liberal-studies-program/liberal-studies-common-core/experiential-learning/>.

Note: The important thing to remember is that you must be doing the experience (typically something meaningful outside the classroom, such as an internship, research, job, study abroad, etc.) *while you're enrolled* in the corresponding Experiential Learning course in order to actually receive credit for the EL requirement.

- **Internship or Job:** Eligible opportunities may earn credit through CLD 250 Navigating the Workplace: <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/services-resources/career-courses/Pages/Work-and-Learn-Courses.aspx>. Complete the course application to see if your job or internship (doesn't have to be related to your field) is eligible for CLD 250. You'll work with uip@depaul.edu to get enrolled and with any other questions.
 - Tip: The [Career Center](#) can help you find jobs and internships!*
- **Research:** If you get a research opportunity in a DePaul professor's lab, you'll work with the professor and their department to get enrolled in the appropriate independent study/research course (e.g. NEU 397).
 - If you get a research opportunity outside of DePaul, it's treated like a job or internship and you would therefore refer back to bullet 1 and see if you can earn credit through CLD 250.
- **Study Abroad:** <https://offices.depaul.edu/global-engagement/student-resources/study-abroad/Pages/default.aspx>.
- **Service-Learning Courses:** These are DePaul courses that have community service project/volunteer hours assigned. Unlike the options above, the experience and course are all rolled into one. You enroll, attend class, and fulfill your assigned service hours. These courses can be tricky for students to identify because they're listed among all other EL courses, which include many that are restricted upperclassmen in certain majors. Options like Internship in Accounting, or Field Work in, for example, are *not* service-learning courses. So when browsing the list, you want to look for titles with words and phrases like "community engagement," "social justice," "making a difference," etc. But you're not on your own! Contact your academic advisor for assistance exploring or confirming which courses are service-learning courses.

What to do after receiving a B.S. in Neuroscience

Who can help? [Faculty Advisor](#), and [Career Center](#) resources including [Career Advising](#)

By achieving a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, our students will be prepared to pursue a variety of career paths that include options such as:

- Within the health field, students can go on to graduate training programs that focus on neuroimaging and neurophysiology for example, administering electroencephalograms or magnetic resonance imaging.
- Professional health careers dealing with Neuroscience include Psychiatry, Neurology, Neuropathology, Neuro-physics, and Neurosurgery.
- Students interested in Psychology can pursue careers in counseling, clinical psychology, or neuropsychology.
- Students in computational neuroscience can go on to graduate programs in computer science, imaging, artificial intelligence, and "big data."
- Another option is to move on to graduate programs in marketing and economics as Neuro-marketing and Neuro-economics are fairly new fields, or in law and ethics.
- Upon completion of a B.S. in Neuroscience, without pursuit of graduate studies, students will be qualified for numerous positions as biomedical, pharmaceutical, and psychology researchers, forensics technicians, science writers, data analysis, or non-for-profit agencies dealing with disease and disorder of the brain.

For additional about careers in Neuroscience visit:

<https://csh.depaul.edu/academics/neuroscience/student-resources/Pages/Career-Resources.aspx>

Career Checklist

Who can help? [Career Center](#) resources including [Career Advising](#)

1. Review and update your [resume](#), [cover letter](#), and [portfolio](#).
2. Improve your profile. Strengthen your personal brand by updating your [LinkedIn](#) account and using its tools to expand and organize your network. Make sure to join [DePaul Neural Network](#) on LinkedIn!
3. [Connect](#) over coffee. Get an insider's perspective on a job or industry and learn about your field by setting up an informational interview.
4. Practice [interviewing](#). Visit the Career Center, or practice from the comfort of your couch by logging into depaul.biginterview.com. Click the "Login" button at the top right and login using your Campus Connect credentials.

5. [Research](#) and apply. Put your Googling skills to work. Research your ideal employers, types of jobs and positions in your field. Over 1000 new jobs and internships are posted each month in DePaul Experience.
6. The Career Center is here to support you in so many ways. Work with them on all of the above! <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/Pages/default.aspx>.

[DePaul's Career Center Resources](#)

There are a variety of options for DePaul students and alumni to connect with the Career Center team for career guidance and insight. You can schedule an appointment with an advisor or peer ambassador in Handshake, drop-in with a peer coach, or submit your resume online for review. Visit <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/Pages/default.aspx>.

***Tip:** Don't wait till senior year to access the Career Center! You can work with them at any time to explore your career interests as they relate to your skills and values, in addition to help with your resume, cover letter, interviewing, and much more! Visit the following page for Services for New & Incoming Students: <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/services-resources/new-students/Pages/default.aspx>.*

Questions? Give them a call at 312-362-8427, or email career_center@depaul.edu, or visit:

Lincoln Park Campus

2320 N Kenmore Ave, SAC 192
Chicago IL, 60614
(773)-325-7431

Loop Campus

1 E. Jackson Blvd, Suite 9500
Chicago IL, 60604
(312)-362-8437

Career Advising: Career Advisors, who specialize in serving the needs of students and alumni from each of DePaul's colleges, are available to meet by appointment. Advising sessions can cover a variety of topics, including selecting a major, advanced resume development, job search strategies, interviewing skills, and other career-related concerns.

Graduate School Guide: <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/services-resources/Pages/guide-to-grad-school.aspx>.

More Career Center Resources: Visit the Career Center's Resources webpage at <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/services-resources/Pages/default.aspx> to access an interactive resume tutorial, Instant Message a Peer Career Advisor, or access this packet and other documents electronically.

Networking: <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/networking/Pages/default.aspx>

Applying to Graduate School in Neuroscience

Who can help? [Faculty Advisor](#), [Graduate School Admissions Counselors](#), and [Career Center resources including Career Advising](#)

Requirements for graduate school in neuroscience differ significantly. All general prerequisites for graduate school have been included in either the required or elective courses for the major. However, students who want to go to graduate school are advised to meet with a Neuroscience faculty advisor early to make appropriate elective choices within their concentration. More information about graduate programs can be found on our website: <https://csh.depaul.edu/academics/neuroscience/student-resources/Pages/Graduate-Programs.aspx>.

Review university and program websites and other available statistics on the programs in which you are interested. [Peterson's Guide to Graduate School](#) can also provide you with a quick overview of several schools and the programs they offer, as well as articles and advice on evaluating programs, preparing for the application process, and financing your next educational journey.

The Career Center also has more general resources about Graduate School: <https://resources.depaul.edu/career-center/services-resources/Pages/guide-to-grad-school.aspx>

Tip: *Gaining experience with research is important if you want to go to graduate school! See the Research section above to begin learning how to get into research.*

Post-Baccalaureate Research Programs

Thinking about going to graduate school, but not sure? Consider a Post-Bacc program! These are a great way to see what it's like doing research, without the commitment of a full graduate program. The following links are just a sampling of available possibilities. More information can be found on our website: <https://csh.depaul.edu/academics/neuroscience/student-resources/Pages/Graduate-Programs.aspx>

https://www.training.nih.gov/programs/postbac_irta

<https://research.ninds.nih.gov/employment-training/training-programs-ninds/postbaccalaureate-program>

<https://www.nigms.nih.gov/maps/Pages/Post-Baccalaureate-Research-Education-Program-Institutions.aspx>

Northwestern PREP program: <https://www.nuin.northwestern.edu/postbaccalaureate/index.html>

UIC PREP program: <https://grad.uic.edu/diversity/pbrc-prep/>

Interested in a Health Profession?

The College of Science and Health's (CSH) Office of Advising and Student Services' pre-health advisors and the Pre-health Advising Committee (PAC) offer specialized advising for any DePaul student interested in pursuing a graduate health professions program. (cont'd on next page)

The pre-health advisors and the PAC are the two primary supports for pre-health advising in the CSH. The pre-health advisors and PAC pride themselves on mentoring and advising pre-professional students on how to become competitive applicants to professional programs.

At DePaul University, pre-health is not considered a major, minor, or concentration, therefore, any student in any major is able to [REGISTER](#) for the [Pre-Health Program](#) and start taking advantage of its benefits.

You may schedule an appointment with the pre-health advisor by calling 773-325-8490.

