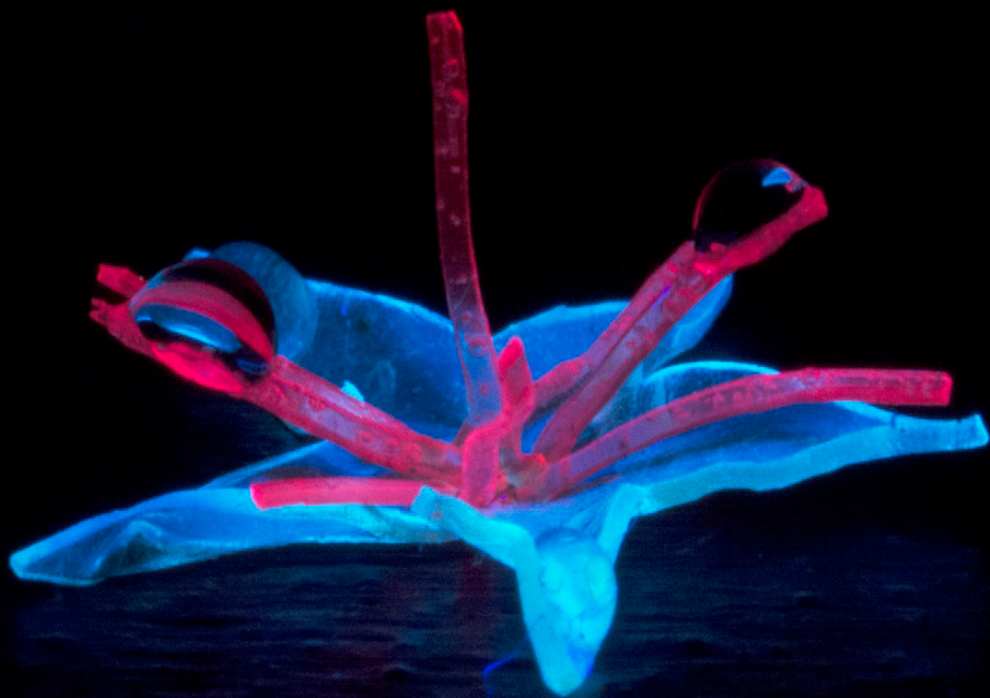


# UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS



Apply until January 20



**BIO-INSPIRED  
MATERIALS**

NATIONAL CENTER OF COMPETENCE  
IN RESEARCH



**Swiss National  
Science Foundation**

# A project in Switzerland

Looking for an undergraduate summer research project with a difference? Sign up with Switzerland's National Center of Competence in Research (NCCR) Bio-Inspired Materials!

## **Cutting-edge research:**

The NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials offers you the opportunity to spend the summer break participating in groundbreaking research within one of the Center's groups.

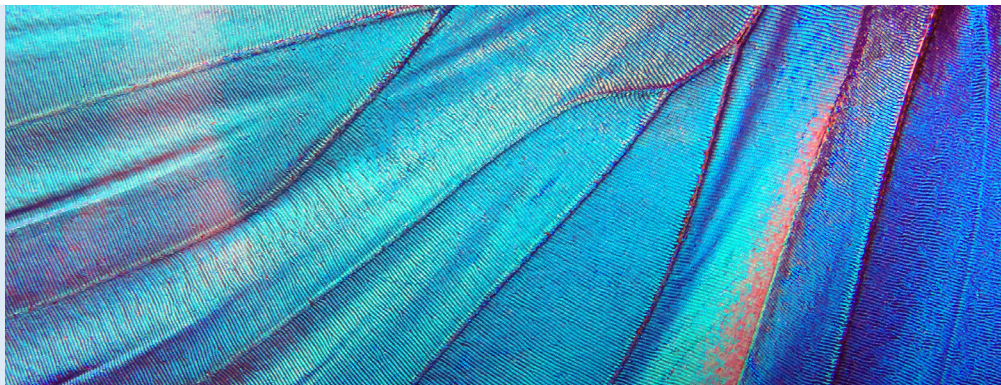
- **When:** June 15 to September 15
- **Duration:** 8 to 12 weeks

## **Your own project:**

Undergraduate students apply for and work on a specific project in the fields they are interested in. As part of this project, you will get a first taste of advanced research work and gain hands-on experience while benefiting from a unique opportunity to explore career options and network with an interdisciplinary team of professionals. During your stay, you will also get to present the results of your project.

## **Financial support:**

The NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials organizes and covers the costs of housing for the whole period of your stay. Travel costs are also reimbursed.



The NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials was launched in June 2014 with the backing of the Swiss National Science Foundation. It is an interdisciplinary center focused on the domain of “smart” materials inspired by nature. Its researchers are active in biology, medicine, physics, chemistry and materials science.

NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials researchers seek inspiration from natural materials to establish design rules and strategies for the creation of macromolecular and nanomaterial-based building blocks and their assembly into stimuli-responsive materials with new and desirable properties.

At the NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials, we also aim to develop a predictive understanding of how these materials interact with living cells. Over time, the generated knowledge should lead to the development of innovative applications, particularly in the biomedical field.

The NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials groups are based at the University of Fribourg (home institution), the Adolphe Merkle Institute, as well as the Federal Institutes of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL) and Zurich (ETHZ), CSEM, Empa, the University of Salzburg, TU Darmstadt, and Cornell University.



# Why apply?

There are many advantages to our program:

NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials researchers, your future mentors, are among the best in their field and benefit from top-level facilities.

Our partner universities are highly rated for their excellence worldwide and train large numbers of graduates.

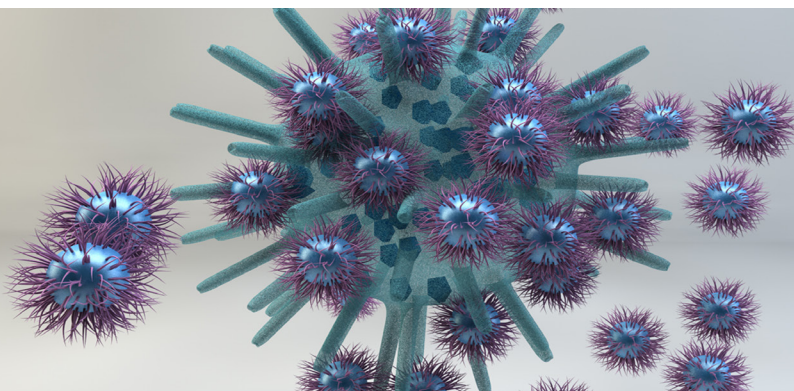
NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials research groups work on interdisciplinary projects that transcend traditional divisions between scientific disciplines, providing participants with new insights into different domains.

Joining the program gives you an opportunity to build your personal network with your peers as well as established researchers, an important long-term advantage for your future career. This program also allows you to obtain ECTS.

Besides your research activities, you get to follow lectures as well as take part in social and networking events organized during the program.

There is also plenty of time to discover what makes Switzerland a vibrant multicultural society, whether you are already living here or arriving from abroad.

So why don't you come and join us?





# Application guidelines

**Interested?** Applications for the Undergraduate Summer Research Internship program are open between **December 1 and January 20**. Up to 21 positions are offered on a competitive basis. Students are chosen based upon their academic record, scientific interests, motivation and a letter of recommendation.

**To apply**, you must be a Swiss national, a citizen of a European Union state, or come from a country with a visa exemption agreement with Switzerland (such as the UK) for a maximum period of stay of 90 days.

Be enrolled at a university as a full-time undergraduate student in a relevant field of natural sciences. Undergraduate is understood to mean the first four years of training towards a bachelor's degree. Applicants should have concluded at least two years of a degree program by the start of their stay and certify they are already registered for the upcoming academic year. Very good (oral and written) English language skills (level B2/C1) are a must.

Undergraduate students studying in Switzerland and at partner institutions of the NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials are encouraged to apply. Your application must be submitted via the **online form**.

To apply and more info, go here:

[www.bioinspired-materials.ch/en/education/summerschool](http://www.bioinspired-materials.ch/en/education/summerschool)





## Contact address:

NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials  
c/o Adolphe Merkle Institute  
University of Fribourg  
Chemin des Verdiers 4  
1700 Fribourg  
Switzerland

For inquiries related to the **undergraduate program**, please contact the

NCCR-Bio-Inspired Materials coordinator at: **[NCCR-URI@unifr.ch](mailto:NCCR-URI@unifr.ch)**

**Website:** [www.bioinspired-materials.ch](http://www.bioinspired-materials.ch)