The goal of UREC2 is to increase the number of undergraduate research at Cuesta College. This includes multiple research projects for students. We asked students to share their perspectives. We surveyed 217 students.

100% Self-reflection is a goal of undergraduate research. 95% want to participate in research activities. 69% say they are interested in teaching, research, and career guidance.

Now Underway at Cuesta College

8 STEM faculty are engaged in undergraduate research with students and have developed:
1. New undergraduate STEM seminar
2. Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs)
3. Embedded Undergraduate Research Experiences

Question: Would you be more likely to participate if the research experience came with financial compensation?

128 students or 61% said YES, and would participate even without compensation. 79 students, or 39% said YES, but not without compensation.

SUMMER was the best time to participate for most students: although fall and spring were possibilities for some.

54% would consider taking a 1-2 unit research seminar in their first year to learn about STEM career opportunities, research techniques, and research opportunities.

60% said that participating in undergraduate research was “very important” for gaining employment in their field of study.

60% are interested in joining a STEM community that would link them to students and faculty early in their career at Cuesta College.

89% had not been involved in a research project at the college.

More student survey findings...

What students told us...

"Undergraduate research would help me explore my intended field of study as well as open more opportunities and desirable programs such as colleges or jobs."

"I feel a research seminar would give me an opportunity to figure out what I need to be putting into a research opportunity or internship. What skills do I need to bring? What do I need to be working on? Also, it just gives you an idea of where you can go."

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