# UCInspire Program

The Samueli School of Engineering & Division of Continuing Education
University of California, Irvine

June 22 – August 28, 2026 (10 weeks)

## OVERVIEW

Founded in 1965, the University of California, Irvine is located in sunny Orange County, California, about 50 Miles from Los Angeles. The school is known for its excellent geographical location, learning and living environment, and the support from a large number of high-tech enterprises in Orange County, making UCI the fastest-growing school in the UC system. The faculty includes internationally renowned scholars and researchers who are dynamic, dedicated teachers. Five UCI researchers and affiliates have also won Nobel Prizes.

UCI has been ranked Top 10 among the nation's public universities – and 32nd overall – on U.S. News & World Report's 2026 list of "Best Colleges". The Samueli School of Engineering is ranked 17th in U.S. News & World Report's current listing of best public engineering graduate programs, and 31st among all graduate programs. The School of Engineering includes the following six departments: Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Materials Science Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Biomedical Engineering. Among the 150+ professors, 18 faculty members are members of the National Academy of Engineering. Faculty members are scholars and leaders in their disciplines and have achieved worldwide honors and recognition for their pioneering research and dedicated teaching.

The UCInspire program, organized by The Samueli School of Engineering at the University of California, Irvine, is a 10-week research training program to provide a comprehensive engineering experience to participants. Each student will select and work on a specific project under the supervision of a faculty mentor and deliver a final presentation to conclude the research project. In addition, students will participate in a series of professional development and technical seminars to develop a global perspective on engineering. Academic units will be awarded upon completion.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- 10 weeks research training under UCI world-class faculty
- 6 transferable academic units (2 units if remote learning format is requested)
- Opportunity to obtain a recommendation letter from a faculty mentor
- Differentiate graduate application with U.S. university research experience
- Consultation on UCI engineering graduate applications
- Cultivate multi-disciplinary interaction
- Professional/career development
- Experience American culture and diversity

## PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Engineering or science major
- At least two years of study completed (3rd year students preferred)
- Top 20% by ranking or minimum GPA of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Excellent communication skills
- Proof of English proficiency, 85 iBT TOEFL or 6.5 IELTS
- Plans to attend graduate programs abroad
- Motivated, independent, and responsible individuals
- Prior research experience is a plus

## PROGRAM COST

The total cost includes program administration and activities, transferable academic course credit fee, UCI visa processing fee, research expenses, health insurance, and non-refundable application fee.  Program cost excludes estimates on airfare, housing, meals, visa fees, and personal expenses.  Students will have different options for housing. On-campus housing may be available at approximately $2700 per student during the program.

| Item | Estimated Cost |
|---|---|
| Tuition & Program Fee (including 6 units) | $3775 |
| Research Expenses | $2000 |
| Health Insurance (10 weeks) | $675 |
| Mandatory Campus fee | $300 |
| Visa (I-20) Fee for summer session | $750 |
| UCInspire Application Fees(non-refundable) | $50 |
| **Total** | **$7550** |

*Should the student request a remote learning format, the program cost will be $5,200 USD.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Application Deadline: January 14, 2026
- Online Interview: January 21 – February 12, 2026
- Project Matching and Acceptance Letter: February 18 – March 13, 2026
- Start Applying for I-20(to apply for F-1 visa): March 16, 2026 (tentative)
- Program Dates: June 22 – August 28, 2026 (10 weeks)

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- Students may apply to the program online: https://sites.uci.edu/ucinspire/application/
- Required Materials:
    - Official transcript
    - One-page personal statement
    - Two references
    - List of top 5 faculty choices

## WEBSITE

http://sites.uci.edu/ucinspire/