

Guidelines for SURF reports

1. The **SURF Report** is a one-page summary of your research findings and overall experience that will be submitted at the end of your research project. This report will be shared with the donors of your SURF award.
2. The report requires the signature of your faculty mentor. Please have your faculty mentor include their signature at the bottom of your report.
3. Type your report into a Microsoft Word document and upload it to the link provided on your agreement.
4. Include in your report:
 - Your name
 - Your major(s) and minor(s)
 - Your class year in school for the upcoming 2026-2027 academic year
 - Your career goals and/or future plans
 - A description of the research project you worked on and the role you played in the project. What did you discover or learn as a result of your research experience?
5. Refer to your agreement or the website <https://dornsife.usc.edu/css/surf/> for report deadlines.

Sample SURF Report

Thanks to the generosity of Dornsife's SURF funding, I was provided the opportunity to continue my position as a Research Assistant in Dr. John Doe's Addiction & Self Control Lab. I continued to work with our team on the "Vape-Brain" Project, which investigates the relationship between vaping, the impact of sweet flavored vapes, and appetite. Vape-Brain began conducting experimental protocol on two participants over the summer of 2022, where I was able to observe and start to carry out the study's "Vaping Session" protocol with participants. As my knowledge and experience within the study grew, I began conducting the Vaping Session procedure by myself, and was able to assist Research Assistants with Level 1 fMRI clearance to conduct the brain imaging part of the experiment. Using fMRI (functional magnetic resonance imaging) brain imaging, I assisted the Vape-Brain project during the fall by recruiting participants, organizing instructional documents, inputting participant data, and carrying out experimental protocol.

Dornsife's SURF award has not only given me the opportunity to contribute towards Clinical Research with current social significance but expand my academic knowledge in the realm of Addiction Science. Apart from the Vape-Brain project, I'm currently a junior pursuing a major in Psychology and a minor in Addiction Science, and I serve as a Research Intern & Project Manager in a drug education and overdose harm reduction organization. My position in the Addiction & Self Control Lab has allowed me to holistically expand my understanding of addiction and the impact of substance use, through exposure to emerging research in the field and networking opportunities, which is a field that I hope to continue to contribute to in a career in addiction management. I sincerely appreciate the gracious support of the Dornsife SURF award, for allowing me to continue cultivating my passion for addiction science research.

Sincerely,
[Signature of student]
[Signature of Faculty Advisor]