



# UCREW REAL ESTATE CHALLENGE

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is CREW?

[CREW](#) stands for Commercial Real Estate Women. It's a global organization whose mission is to advance women in commercial real estate through networking, industry research, leadership training and career outreach. There are 80+ chapters and global affiliates. We belong to the CREW Austin Chapter.

### What is CRE?

CRE stands for commercial real estate. Simply put, it is any property that is used to produce income. There are many players involved in CRE, including developers, analysts, accountants, attorneys, brokers, surveyors, engineers, architects, builders, property managers, leasing agents, and more.

### What is UCREW?

UCREW is the committee within CREW that focuses on university outreach and exposing college students to the world of CRE. The local CREW Austin chapter has a scholarship competition program and offers student memberships.

### What is the UCREW Real Estate Challenge?

The [UCREW Real Estate Challenge](#) is a program that connects students with professionals and culminates in scholarship awards for the top winners. It consists of three parts:

#### **Session I: Art of the Deal (Jan 28, 2025 | 5:30-7pm | Virtual via Zoom)**

- Students learn about the “art of the deal”, network with professionals, and hear more specifics on the requirements of the competition.

#### **Session II: Mentorship (Feb 3, 2025 - Feb 23, 2025 | Virtual or In Person)**

- You will have the opportunity to ask your mentor about their career development and work on the submission materials for the scholarship competition together.

- The deliverables are a one-page executive brief and a 3-5 slide presentation addressing the following prompt:
  - Describe a commercial real estate project you would like to be involved in, and based on your future career in real estate, describe ways in which you might be involved in the project.
- Students meet with their mentor at least 2 hours (virtually or in person) and then submit their executive brief and presentation slides by **Feb 23, 2025**.

### **Session III: Student Presentations & Scholarship Awards (Mar 4, 2024 | 5:30-7pm | Virtual via Zoom)**

- Finalists will be invited to present their project during Session III.
- We strongly encourage everyone to join both virtual nights as it includes additional networking with local professionals.
- CREW Austin will award \$5,500 in scholarships to the top three winners, along with 5 student memberships to the top five winners.

### **Can I participate if my field of study is not real estate?**

Yes! We encourage students from all majors to participate because the world of CRE is extremely multi-faceted. Some roles require specific training or licensure, but not all. Additionally, many licenses do not require a specific major. Most roles do require strong communication, organization, and project management skills- which are in a variety of majors.

Architecture, engineer, business, and real estate students may seem an immediate fit to the CRE industry. However, many of our most successful CREW business women have degrees in communications, English, political science, criminology, and other fields that may initially seem unrelated. CRE is a wide field and we encourage all majors to see how their skills can be of value. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

### **What is the CREW National/Network Scholarship?**

In addition to the mentoring/scholarship program with the CREW Austin chapter, the national CREW Network organization has a [separate scholarship](#). Students can apply to the CREW Network scholarship whether or not they applied and/or won for the CREW Austin scholarship. It is completely independent.

### **Who can participate?**

- Women who are current undergraduate and graduate students with a minimum of two (2) completed semesters in college as of the application date.
- All majors will be considered. This is a multi-disciplinary program.
- Students interested in learning more about careers in Commercial Real Estate.

### **I'm still confused.**

Email us at [ucrewaustin@gmail.com](mailto:ucrewaustin@gmail.com) with your specific question. UCREW is here to help!