Committee of Research and Publications (CRP)

Call for Applications:
Undergraduate Student Research Award Competition – Summer 2027

The Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA) program supports more than 3,000 students annually and is administered jointly by Canada's three research granting agencies: the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

Applications for the USRA program must be completed and submitted to the Canadian institution where you wish to hold the award through NSERC's online system. Selected applications are submitted to NSERC by institutions. No USRA applications may be submitted directly to the agencies.

Deadline for submission: January 15, 2027 – 4:00 pm

Total value of award: $9,966.60 (14 weeks) to $11,390.40 (16 weeks) $11,390.00, based on $18.00/hour + 13% benefits, 35 hrs/wk.

NSERC/SSHRC/CIHR Contribution: $6,000.00

Researcher Contribution: a minimum of $3,966.6 (14 weeks) to $5,390.4 (16 weeks)

***Student applicants for Fall or Winter competitions are required to contact Financial Aid (financial.aid@msvu.ca) to confirm what financial impact this award may have (e.g., loans, bursaries, scholarships) prior to applying for this award.

Students may hold this award only once per fiscal year.

Student Eligibility

- must be registered full-time or part-time in a Bachelor's degree program at an eligible university as of the institution's deadline date.
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada or a Protected Person under subsection 95(2) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.*
- must have obtained, over the previous years of study, a cumulative average of at least second class (a grade of "B" or "B-," if applicable) as defined by your university.

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- cannot be currently enrolled in an undergraduate professional degree program in the health sciences (e.g., MD, DDS, BScN) (*does not apply for CIHR USRAs*).
- cannot be currently registered or have been previously registered, at any time, in a graduate program in the same field of study.
- cannot have completed all degree requirements.

For more information, please review the NSERC USRA website at:

https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC_eng.asp

Actual student stipend - $9,966.6 (for 14 weeks) or $11,390.00 for a full 16-week period. Please note, the following application procedure for students wishing to apply for a USRA position:

1. Students are to complete Part 1 of the USRA application. NSERC, CIHR and SSHRC students apply to the program using the NSERC on-line system.
2. Faculty Sponsor/Supervisor are to complete Part 2 of the USRA Application. Once complete, please upload/submit the application to NSERC. This will enable the Research Office to access these applications for adjudication.
3. Via e-mail, the faculty supervisor should submit a Letter of support (max 1 page) including a statement that they will provide the minimum salary contribution of $3,966.6-5, 289.60. (NOTE: in the event that a faculty member is associated with more than one student, the faculty member must rank order each of their candidates.

Please note that no handwritten application will be accepted.

CIHR and SSHRC USRAs are, at the present time, exclusively for Black student researchers. To be considered, you must self-identify as Black.

The Committee on Research and Publications reminds faculty and students that they must adhere to the NSREC rules and regulations for USRA candidates (website: http://www.nserccrsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC_eng.asp). The CRP will endeavor to ensure an even disbursement between senior and junior faculty applicants; however, preference will be given to faculty who currently hold NSERC Discovery Grants.

Any CRP member who has applied for USRA positions for their student(s) shall be absent for the adjudication of this competition. Preference shall be allotted to Faculty who have a current NSERC Discovery grant.

Applications will be classes as follows:

A	Successful	Application will be submitted to NSERC
B	Waitlisted	Application is meritorious and will be considered if
		NSERC USRA allocation is increased.
C	Unsuccessful	Application is unsuccessful. Application will be returned to researchers.

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