



Summer Research Opportunities in Engineering

Summer 2026

Thank you for joining us!

To ensure the smooth delivery of this session, please ensure you are following the etiquette for Zoom Meetings listed below:

1. Mute your microphone
2. Keep your camera turned off for the duration of the Session.
3. Please use the Chat feature to submit your questions, and we will answer them all at the end.

Undergraduate Summer Research Awards

- Provides undergraduate students an opportunity to gain research experience by participating in research activities in a research lab under the supervision of a faculty member
- Duration: 16 consecutive weeks (full-time) from May to August
- Financial support is provided
- Part-time hours and vacation leave are **not** allowed

Types of Awards

1. NSERC Undergraduate Summer Research Scholarship (USRA)
2. Western Undergraduate Student Research Internship (USRI)
3. Dean's Award
4. Summer Research Award
5. Frugal Biomedical Innovations Research Internships
6. Canadian Severe Storms Laboratory Internships
7. Thompson Centre for Engineering Leadership & Innovation

Types of Awards (cont.)

- All awards provide similar summer research experiences for undergraduate students
- Minimum financial support is \$7,500 for the 16-week period (amounts vary from \$7500 – \$9268)
- Students often receive more than the minimum amount
- Some differences in eligibility
- Do not consider it as a summer job but rather a funded opportunity to gain research experience
- A great opportunity to try out research...UG thesis? Grad school?



NSERC USRA

- A Student Award provided by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)
- Allows Undergraduate students an opportunity to participate in Research activities
- Provide financial support for research experience through the host university
- NSERC encourages qualified Indigenous students to apply to this program

Award value: *\$9,268 (2024)

Eligibility

- Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Registered full-time student in the term immediately before the award
- Do not hold higher degrees in natural science or engineering
- Have obtained a cumulative average of at least “B+” (78%)
- Have not begun a graduate program prior to tenure of award
- Not enrolled in an undergrad professional degree (M.D., D.D.S., B.Sc.N.)



Western Undergraduate Student Research Internship (USRI)

- A student award provided by Western Research
- Same value as NSERC USRA
- Programming is similar to NSERC USRA, enhanced by additional professional development opportunities hosted by Student Experience and Western Libraries
- Program concludes with an exhibition event held at the end of the summer

Award value: *\$9,268 (2024)

Eligibility

- Canadian Citizens/ Permanent Residents, and International students may be considered
- Registered full-time student in the term immediately before the award
- Do not hold higher degrees in natural science or engineering
- Have obtained a cumulative average of at least “B-” (70%)
- Have not begun a graduate program prior to tenure of award
- Not enrolled in an undergrad professional degree (M.D., D.D.S., B.Sc.N.)

Dean's Award

- Similar programming as NSERC USRA
- Open to Canadian Citizens/ Permanent Residents, and International Students
- Minimum cumulative average of 70% is required

Award value: \$7,500

Summer Research Award

- Similar programming as NSERC USRA
- Open to Canadian Citizens/ Permanent Residents, and International Students
- Minimum cumulative average of 70% is required

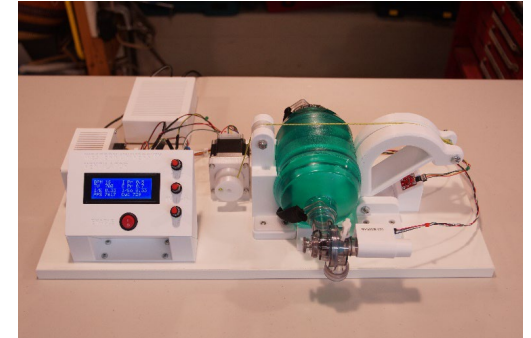
Award value: \$7,500

Frugal Biomedical Innovations Program Objectives

Technology development under conditions compliant with international quality management and medical device regulatory standards

Partnerships to facilitate deployment and testing of devices in remote and low-resource communities in Canada and Africa

Education in frugal design principles and open-source hardware development



Low-cost emergency ventilator, D. Holdsworth, Roberts Research Institute

Scan for
student testimonials



Frugal Biomedical Innovations Research Internships

Apply for projects proposed by faculty members in the program.

Participating labs are located in multiple Faculties and the London hospitals.

Project descriptions are available now!

Check back regularly for more
project descriptions !



You may apply for multiple projects with one application submission.

Project supervisors will interview qualified applicants in February.

Award Value: \$9,632

Canadian Severe Storms Laboratory

2026 Summer Internships

Eligibility:

- Canadian citizen, international student, or permanent resident.
- Currently registered in any undergraduate university or college program at a Canadian institution (and will still be enrolled in an academic program in September 2026).
- Be available from May 4 – August 28, 2026.



Value: \$10,000 CAD

Available internships include:

- **CSSL Field Internship: Tornadoes**
(Post-Event Tornado Damage Surveys)
- **CSSL Field Internship: Hail**
(Real-Time Hailstorm Chasing)
- **CSSL Research Internship**

Thompson Centre for Engineering Leadership & Innovation

- Similar programming as the Dean's Award
- Open to Canadian Citizens/ Permanent Residents, and International Students
- Minimum cumulative average of 70% is required

Award value: \$7,500

Before Applying for Summer Research Awards

- Most of these awards are competitive and the selection criteria is primarily based on the academic average
- Ensure that your academic average is at or above the required minimum average
- A Faculty Supervisor is **required** who is willing to serve as the research supervisor
- Reach out to faculty members whose research fields are of interest to you
- Arrange a meeting with them and discuss about potential summer project(s)
- Before applying, ensure that you have the confirmation and agreement of a Faculty Supervisor

Student Testimonial

Artemis Cherkaev

How to Apply for Undergraduate Summer Research Awards

The Faculty of Engineering will be administering a SINGLE APPLICATION for students to be considered for all summer award competitions

Application will open on Monday, December 1st 2025 and close on Monday, January 26th 2026

Current Projects & More Information:
<https://www.eng.uwo.ca/graduate/funding/nserc-usra.html>

Questions?



Western
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