



Western
UNIVERSITY • CANADA

Summer Research Opportunities in Engineering

Summer 2022

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. Hold all questions until the end! We will open the Chat feature to collect your questions at the start of the Question & Answer period.

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

Types of Awards (cont.)

- All awards provide similar summer research experiences for undergraduate students
- Minimum financial support is same for all awards (\$7,500)
- 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 (Research Award)
- Try out research...UG thesis? Grad school?

N SERC 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

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

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

Summer Research Award

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

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

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 details will be provided soon**)
- Domestic students who are interested in being considered for NSERC USRA **must also be required to submit an application** through the [NSERC USRA website](#)
- Application deadline will be near the end of January 2022 (exact date will be shared soon)

Need more information?

For information on all undergraduate summer research programming:

<https://www.eng.uwo.ca/graduate/funding/nserc-usra.html>

For NSERC-specific information:

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

Student Experience Testimonials

Jaeleah Goor, Civil & Environmental Engineering

Mustafa Osman, Chemical & Biochemical
Engineering

Catriona Chan, Electrical & Computer
Engineering

Isaac Clapp, Mechanical & Materials Engineering

Current Projects:

<https://www.eng.uwo.ca/graduate/funding/nserc-usra.html>

Questions?



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