Roger S Smith Undergraduate Summer Research Awards
in the Faculty of Arts, funded in partnership with Killam

Information for Arts Students

Looking for a job? Want to do research this summer?
Apply for a Roger S Smith Undergraduate Summer Research Award in the Faculty of Arts.

- obtain meaningful summer employment
- explore career opportunities in the research environment
- investigate and learn more about an area of interest
- gain invaluable skills and experience
- develop a positive working relationship with a faculty researcher

What is the Roger S Smith Undergraduate Summer Research Awards in the Faculty of Arts?
The Roger S Smith Undergraduate Summer Research Awards in the Faculty of Arts will provide undergraduate students in the Faculty of Arts with an opportunity to receive $5000 to cover 15 weeks of research-based activity this summer.

How many awards will be made?
There will be approximately 15 awards. The award is tenable only once in an undergraduate student's career.

Who is eligible to apply?
Applicants must be full-time students continuing in an undergraduate degree program in Fall of the current year in the Faculty of Arts, who is currently enrolled in the Faculty of Arts with a minimum GPA of 3.3 for all courses taken while registered in the Faculty of Arts, and legally entitled to work on campus may apply for one of these awards. Students must have completed a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 90 credits towards their degree at the time of application.

Students who are graduating in the current year, special students, open studies students, students not continuing full-time, or those who are planning to transfer to another Faculty are not eligible.

Where do I get an application form?
Application forms are available online in the Research section of the Faculty of Arts website: Applying for the Roger S. Smith Undergraduate Summer Research Awards.

Revised: January 2017
What is the deadline for applications?

Applications must be received by March 1st (if this date falls on a holiday or weekend, applications will be accepted the following business day). Award winners will be notified by April 30th.

How do I apply?

Submit a competed application form, along with your résumé and a copy of your unofficial transcripts, to the Associate Dean Research, c/o Nancie Hodgson (resarts@ualberta.ca).

Your supervising professor must complete Section 3 and sign your application form before it is submitted. By signing your form the professor is expressing a willingness to supervise the work. While it must be indicated whether the project requires ethics approval, the student will only need to go through the Research Ethics Board approval process post-adjudication if they receive the award.

Applications must be submitted as a single PDF in the following order:

- Application form
- Resume
- Unofficial copy of transcripts

Any applications not received as a single PDF will be returned to re-submit as required. Applications received in hard copy will not be accepted and will not be adjudicated.

How do I start?

First, review the Terms of Reference found on the website to determine your eligibility. Next, download an application form from the website linked above. Then approach a Faculty of Arts professor involved in research that you find appealing. Work together with the professor to develop a mutually beneficial project.

You may also wish to attend the information session that will be held in late January. Please see our website for details.

What will make my project stand out?

Some of the criteria used to evaluate projects include:

- the applicant’s ability to show a strong grasp of the field being studied
- a link with the supervising professor’s area of research
- promises an enhanced learning experience
- features experience and skill development
- the fit of the project with the applicant’s program
- the applicant’s Faculty GPA

Preference will be given to projects structured as internships assisting students in gaining research skills and experience.

While a link to the supervising professor’s research is encouraged, projects that appear as if the student is simply working as the professor’s RA will not be approved.

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Be prepared to articulate your own thoughts in a concise and intelligent manner. Don’t be shy or daunted by the task! No matter what the outcome, this is a great opportunity to enhance your academic development.

**Can I apply for both the Roger S. Smith USRA and the URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend at the same time?**

You cannot hold both the Roger S Smith USRA and the URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend at the same time for the same project.

You may apply for both awards, however you must have two different proposals/projects and two different supervisors in order to hold both awards at the same time.

If both applications are successful, you must supply written permission from both supervisors to proceed.

The terms of the Roger S Smith award dictate you are expected to spend about 330 hours (~22 hours/week) on your project. Permission from your supervisors must acknowledge this requirement and confirm they will ensure your adherence.

If you do not intend to hold both simultaneously, you are permitted to use the same application (same topic, research proposal, and supervisor) for both competitions.

*If you have additional questions about the Roger S Smith award that have not been answered by the Terms of Reference and/or this document, please contact Nancie Hodgson at resarts@ualberta.ca.*

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The Roger S Smith Undergraduate Student Researcher Awards in the Faculty of Arts are sponsored by the Faculty of Arts in partnership with the Vice-President (Research).

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