

Terms of Reference

Roger S Smith Undergraduate Summer Research Awards in the Faculty of Arts

This award is intended to support independent research by undergraduate students working under the supervision of faculty members. It enables undergraduate students to enrich their university experience by carrying out mentored, interdisciplinary research projects and creative activities.

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 funding intended to cover approximately 14 weeks (or ~330 hours) of research-based activity over the summer months.

Number and Value of Awards

There will be approximately 15 awards of \$5000.00 each. The exact number of awards may vary slightly from year to year.

Eligibility

Awards will be made to selected applicants who fulfill all of the following eligibility criteria:

- Is a full-time Faculty of Arts student with satisfactory academic standing
- With a Faculty minimum GPA of 3.3 for all courses taken while registered in the Faculty of Arts
- Are continuing full-time in an Arts undergraduate degree program in the fall of the current year
- At the time of application, have completed a minimum of 30, and a maximum of 90 credits toward your degree (a +/- 6 credit variance **may** be considered)
- Are legally entitled to work on campus

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

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 **May 15th**

Expectations:

- Students are expected to commit and spend ~330 hours towards their project during the 14 weeks the award is intended to cover.
- All work should be completed during the summer months, mid-May to mid-August.
- At the end of the summer, students are required to produce a brief final report summarizing their research and learning outcomes from the project. Reports should include a short outline of what was accomplished, what was learned, and what was gained from the experience.
- Students are encouraged to prepare a poster based on their research conducted over the summer and participate in the reception and poster display, which is held early in the fall term.

Faculty Supervisor's Role

- Must be a continuing, tenure track faculty member in the Faculty of Arts.
- Is willing and committed to mentor the student they are agreeing to supervise. By co-signing the application, the supervisor is agreeing to supervise the work. Supervisors are also confirming that the student is not simply working as an RA for the summer.
- Supervisors from other faculties are not eligible to act as supervisors to Arts students except in the case of co-supervisors, where at least one faculty supervisor is a continuing, tenure track faculty member in the Faculty of Arts, the other may be from another faculty.

Other Notes:

The award is tenable only once in an undergraduate student's career.

Students may not hold both a Roger S Smith USRA and a URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend at the same time.

Preference will be given to projects structured to provide opportunities for students to gain 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. The project must be the student's initiative.

Students may not use, or continue with, their current Honors project/thesis as their Roger S Smith project.

If at any time during the course of the award a student becomes ineligible to hold the award, the Registrar's office reserves the right to revoke the award and request any funds already paid be returned.

The Roger S Smith Undergraduate Student Researcher Awards in the Faculty of Arts are sponsored by the **Faculty of Arts** in partnership with **Killam**.