



2026
Undergraduate
Summer Research
Information
Session

NSERC USRA and LURA

 **LASSONDE** | **YORK U**
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING



WHAT ARE THESE AWARDS

NSERC USRA

- Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada Undergraduate Student Research Award
- 22 awards
- Unlimited number of positions for eligible Indigenous and black-identifying students who meet the qualifications

LURA

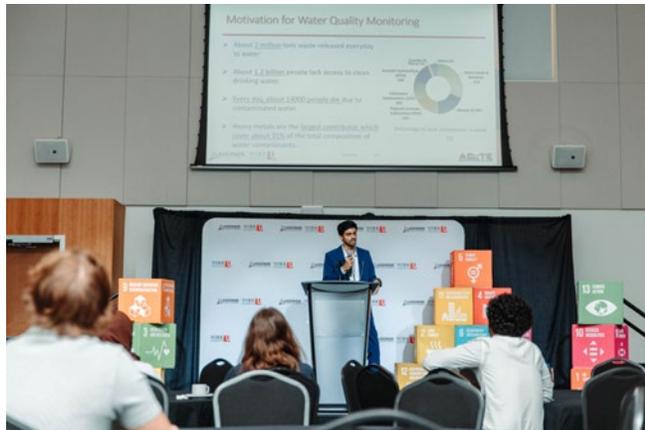
- Lassonde Undergraduate Research Award
- 45 awards available
- Upto 9 International

The awards provide students a stipend of **\$10,000** to work with a professor for **16 weeks (full-time)** on a summer research project.

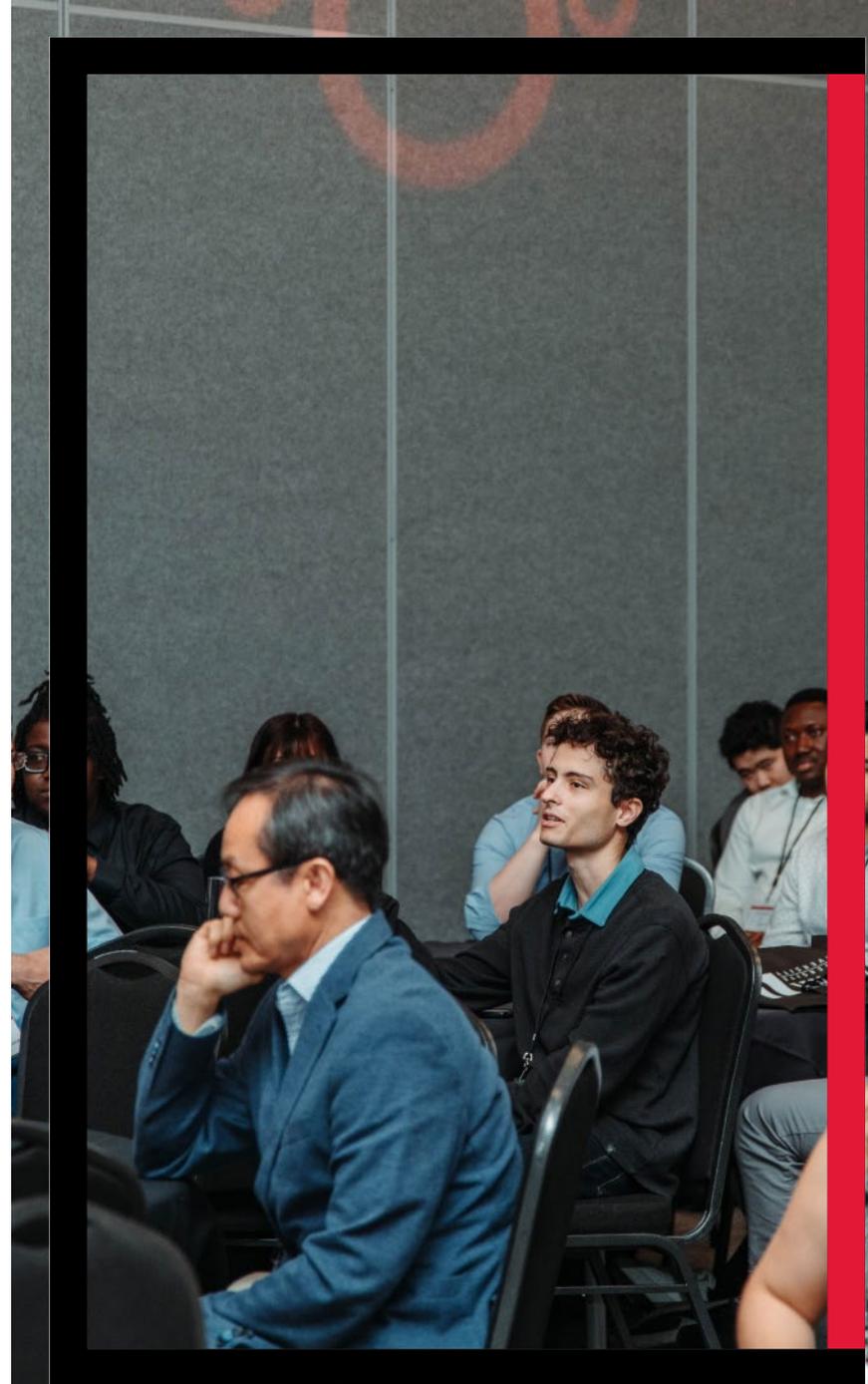
Summer Undergraduate Research Conference

- All students are **required** to present at the annual Lassonde Undergraduate Research Conference
 - August 13, 2026
 - Network with Faculty members

Poster Presentations



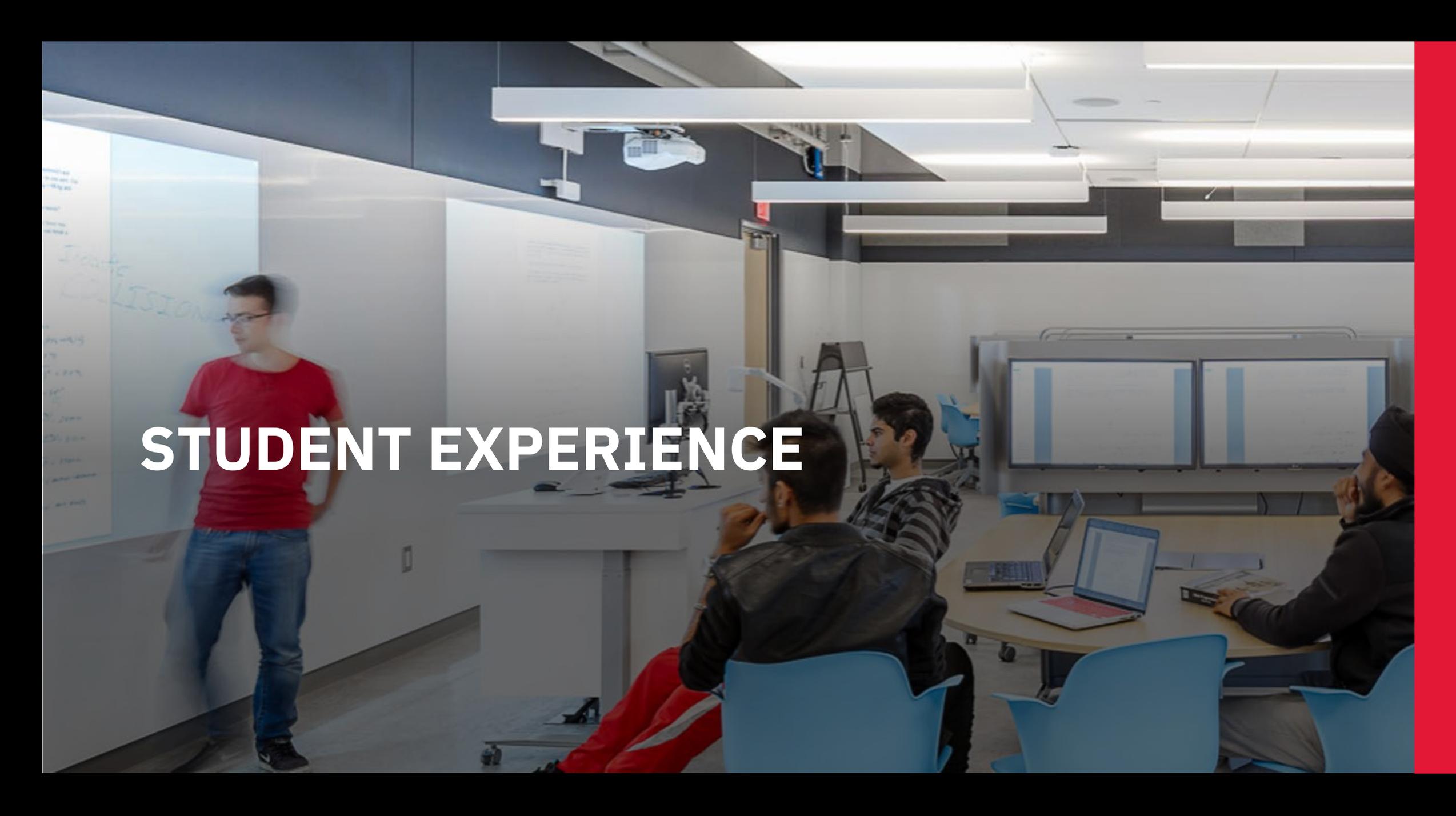
Learn more: <https://lassonde.yorku.ca/research/lassonde-undergraduate-research-2022>



Why would I do summer research?

- Explore research
- Gain hands-on experience and develop new skills
- Learn about graduate school
- Establish relationships with professors and students
 - **Reference letters from Professors**
- Build your resume and get job experience related to your major
- Get CO-OP jobs!

Learn more: <https://lassonde.yorku.ca/research>

A student in a red shirt is standing and presenting to a group of three other students seated at a table. The room is a modern classroom or meeting space with whiteboards, laptops, and blue chairs. The text "STUDENT EXPERIENCE" is overlaid in the center.

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Student Experience

- [Sebastian's Journey](#)
- [Showcasing future trailblazers: Lassonde hosts annual Undergraduate Summer Research Conference](#)
- [Conference Gallery](#)

Undergraduate Summer Research Conference
Lassonde School of Engineering - 12 / 13

- Update**
Lassonde School of Engineering
0:51
- Yedidja's Final Updates on the LURA Program**
Lassonde School of Engineering
0:42
- Pranav's Final Updates on the USRA Program**
Lassonde School of Engineering
1:24
- Ian's Final Updates on the LURA Program**
Lassonde School of Engineering
1:08
- Pina's Final Updates on the LURA Program**
Lassonde School of Engineering
1:05

A man in a red t-shirt and blue jeans stands on the left side of a modern office or meeting room, presenting to a group of people. He is positioned in front of a large whiteboard that has the word "COLLISION" written on it in blue marker. The room features a long wooden table with several laptops open on it, and three people are seated at the table, listening to the presentation. The room is brightly lit with overhead fluorescent lights. The overall atmosphere is professional and collaborative.

I am Interested in Applying, am I Eligible?

NSERC USRA

To be eligible to apply for an award, you must

- be a **Canadian citizen/permanent resident** of Canada as of the deadline date for applications at the institution
- be **registered**, as of the deadline date for applications at the institution, **in a full-time bachelor's degree program in Natural Science and Engineering** at an eligible institution
- completed all course requirements of at least 1 year of study at time of award
- have obtained, over the previous years of study, a **“B-”** cumulative average. (York=6)

In addition...

- if you already hold a bachelor's degree and are studying toward a second bachelor's degree, you may still apply for this award
- you may hold only **one USRA per fiscal year** (April 1 to March 31)
- you may hold a **maximum of three USRAs** throughout your undergraduate university career

NSERC USRA

To hold an award, you must

- have **completed all the course requirements of at least the first year of university study** (or two academic terms) of your bachelor's degree
- have been registered at the time of application and in at least one of the two terms immediately before holding the award in a bachelor's degree program at an eligible institution
- **not have started a program of graduate studies** in the natural sciences or engineering at any time
- **must be working full-time in eligible research** and development activities in the natural sciences or engineering during the tenure of the award

LURA

To apply you must:

- Be a Canadian citizen/permanent resident of Canada, **or an International Student (upto 9 awards)**
- All full-time undergraduate students who meet the requirements for the project (as determined by professors) and Lassonde graduate school programs
- completed all course requirements of at least 1 year of study at time of award
- have obtained, over the previous years of study, a “B-” cumulative average. (York=6)
- **not have started a program of graduate studies** in the natural sciences or engineering at any time
- Students may not enroll in more than **two (2) three-credit courses** during the tenure of the award.
 - **Applicants are requested to discuss this with their potential supervisor prior to endorsement.**

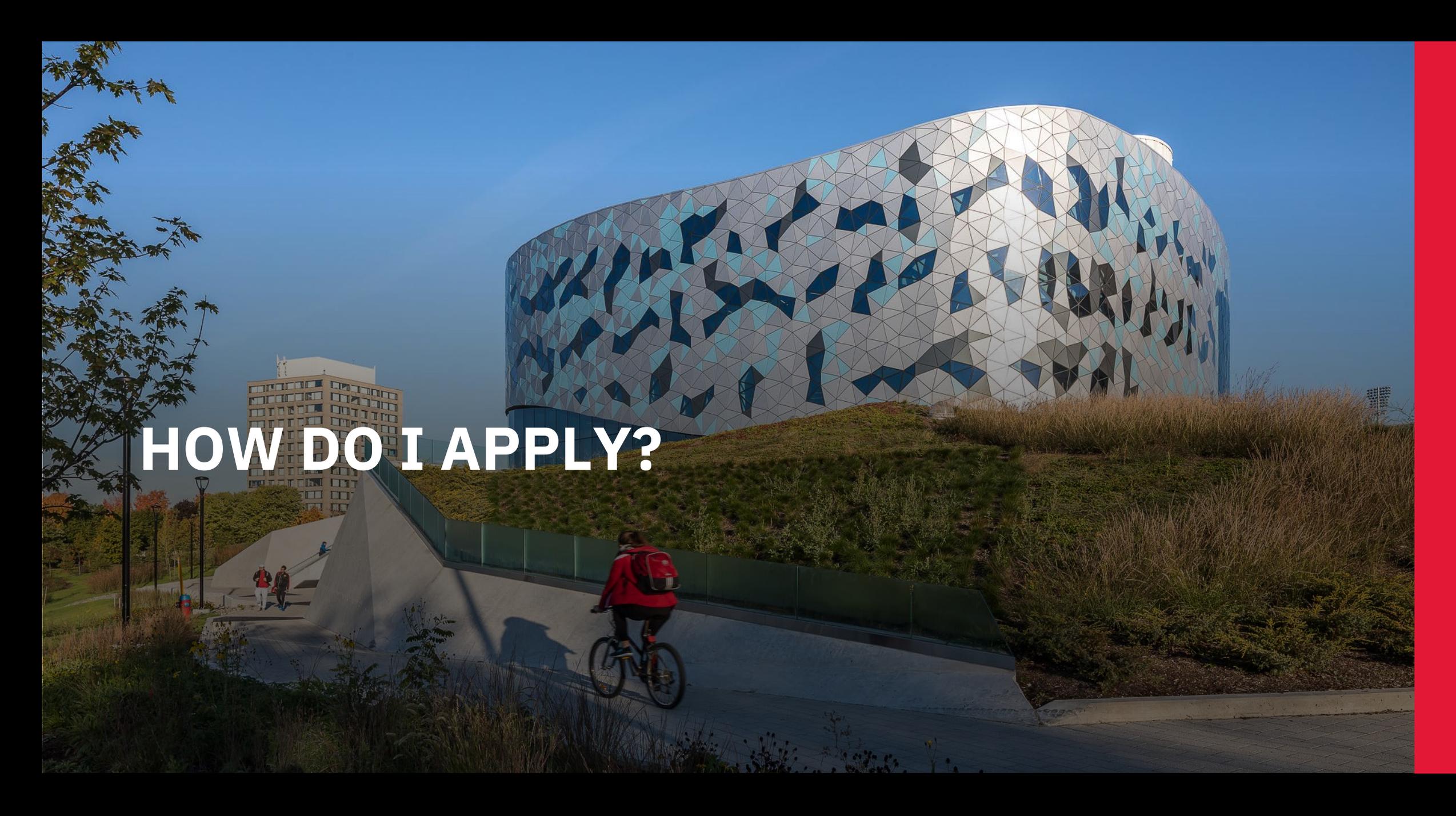
Expectations



- Mid-term Check-ins and performance evaluations for supervisors and students will be conducted.
- Poor performance by the students during the summer program will impact future applications of the students.
- Student attendance at the conference is obligatory. Lack of attendance will disqualify students from future competitions.
- Students are not permitted to hold RAY, work-study, or other research positions within York in tandem with the summer research awards.

Lassonde Co-op

- Both USRA and LURA can count as Co-op for eligible students
- Contact the Co-op office for more information
 - askcoop@yorku.ca
- More information about Co-op can be found on their website
 - <https://lassonde.yorku.ca/co-op/>



HOW DO I APPLY?

What are the application steps?



1. Find a professor and a project

Project Postings – Visit our [website](#) to see > 60 positions posted

Search for professors on the Lassonde Faculty [webpage](#).



2. Contact supervisor and get their endorsement

Deadline for professors to confirm support is February 10, 2026

Supervisor Endorsement [Form](#) signed



3. Submit the application online

Deadline is February 12, 2026, by 9 am

Use [Fluidreview](#) to apply
(You only need to submit one application for both awards!)

2) Find a Host Supervisor

- Reach out to a professor to convey your interest in working for them before submitting.
- Email etiquette
- Attach resume and unofficial transcript, or at least have it ready at this stage.
- A supervisor must endorse you for a position **prior to submitting on FluidReview!**
- Fill out the Supervisor Endorsement Form and have it signed.
- Can reach out to 2 or 3 professors, but remember you can only obtain and submit one endorsement form (i.e. choose one project)

SUPERVISOR ENDORSEMENT FORM

Undergraduate Research Programs

...be completed and signed by the supervisor (i.e. professor). ...st
...mp...ed form with the application in FluidReview.

...n guidelines for student eligibility and application criteria.

...g, reach out to resday@yorku.ca

of Supervisor:

...me of Supervisor:

of Student endorsed:

...ch form:

Summer

Fall / Winter

...nit... financially support the student for the following awards (Check all
...s on... the financial obligation of the supervisor can be found in the " ...mo

LU

NSERC USRA

What documents do I need to apply?



Application on Fluidreview Contact details



Self-Identification Survey (Optional)



Supervisor Endorsement Form



Resume (2 pg. max)



Research Interest Statement (1 pg.)



Transcript (non-Lassonde students ONLY)

3) How do I submit my application?

- [FluidReview](#)
Register for an account -
 - Start application to “Undergraduate Summer Research Awards Program 2026”
 - Upload all documents to FluidReview
 - General Information
 - Contact Details*
 - Self-Identification Form (Voluntary)*
 - Supervisor Endorsement Form
 - Research Interest Statement
 - Resume
 - Transcript (for non Lassonde students ONLY)

- **NSERC forms 202 will not be used at this stage**
Students and supervisors awarded an NSERC USRA will be asked to fill out NSERC forms at a later stage.

Undergraduate Summer Research Awards Program 2026

Opens 2026 Jan 13 09:00 AM (EST)

Deadline 2026 Feb 12 09:00 AM (EST)

Description

Summer Research Award Programs 2026

The LURA and NSERC USRA programs are designed to enhance the undergraduate student experience by providing an opportunity to conduct research within the Lassonde School of Engineering. These two programs are administrated by the Lassonde Research Support Office (RSO) with the assistance of the departments.

Value:

Total award value: \$10,000

This award is not dependent on the student's financial need. Full details are available on our [website](#).

NSERC USRA Indigenous and Black Student Initiative

NSERC encourages qualified Indigenous and Black students to apply to this program by supporting an unlimited number of positions for eligible Indigenous candidates with a number of extra positions for black-identifying students. The Indigenous and Black student USRA awards are adjudicated alongside the NSERC USRA awards.

For details on eligibility and requirements, visit our [website](#). Applicants are encouraged to review FAQs for answers

What documents do I need to apply?

> Supervisor Endorsement Form

- Each professor will fill out and sign this form for every student they host.
- ## > Available online
- ## > *Quality of the training environment*
- Professors will complete this to identify your proposed training, mentorship/supervision, activities, technical skills, and other aspects.

> *Graduate Recruitment Plan*

SUPERVISOR ENDORSEMENT FORM

Undergraduate Research Programs

This form needs to be completed and signed by the supervisor (i.e. professor). The student needs to upload the completed form with the application in FluidReview.

Read program guidelines for student eligibility and application criteria.

For questions, reach out to resday@yorku.ca

1. Name of Supervisor:

2. Department of Supervisor:

3. Name of Student endorsed:

4. Research Term:

Summer

Fall/Winter

5. I commit to financially support the student for the following awards (Check all that apply). Details on the financial obligation of the supervisor can be found in the "Memo to Faculty".

LURA

NSERC USRA

6. Title of the research project the student will be contributing to

What documents do I need to apply?

Resume

- Contact information
- Education
 - High school, college, university
- Work experience
- Volunteer experience
- Skills
 - Link to the project; Add anything unique!
- Clubs, activities, roles
- Awards
- Publications or posters

Tips!

- Highlight your research and/or academic achievement
- Consider highlighting how you used 'soft skills' in your non-research work experience (e.g. communication, teamwork, flexibility, etc.)
- Check spelling and grammar

What documents do I need to apply?

Research Interest Statement (1 pg.)

- Past experience (laboratory or course-related)
- Skills you bring to the project
- Why you are interested in the project or topic, working with the professor, and/or research in general
- What you plan to learn from the experience
- Future plans

Tips!

- Avoid repeating your resume
- Try to use formal language
- Check spelling and grammar

What documents do I need to apply?

Transcripts

- **Non-Lassonde students** need to provide official transcripts to the Lassonde School of Engineering Dean's Office
 - Consult with the Registrar's Office at your institution for ordering options
 - Contact our general inbox (resday@yorku.ca) for more information
 - MyCreds.ca

Students Awarded a USRA

- Students awarded an NSERC USRA may need to provide official [transcripts](#) to NSERC at a later date.

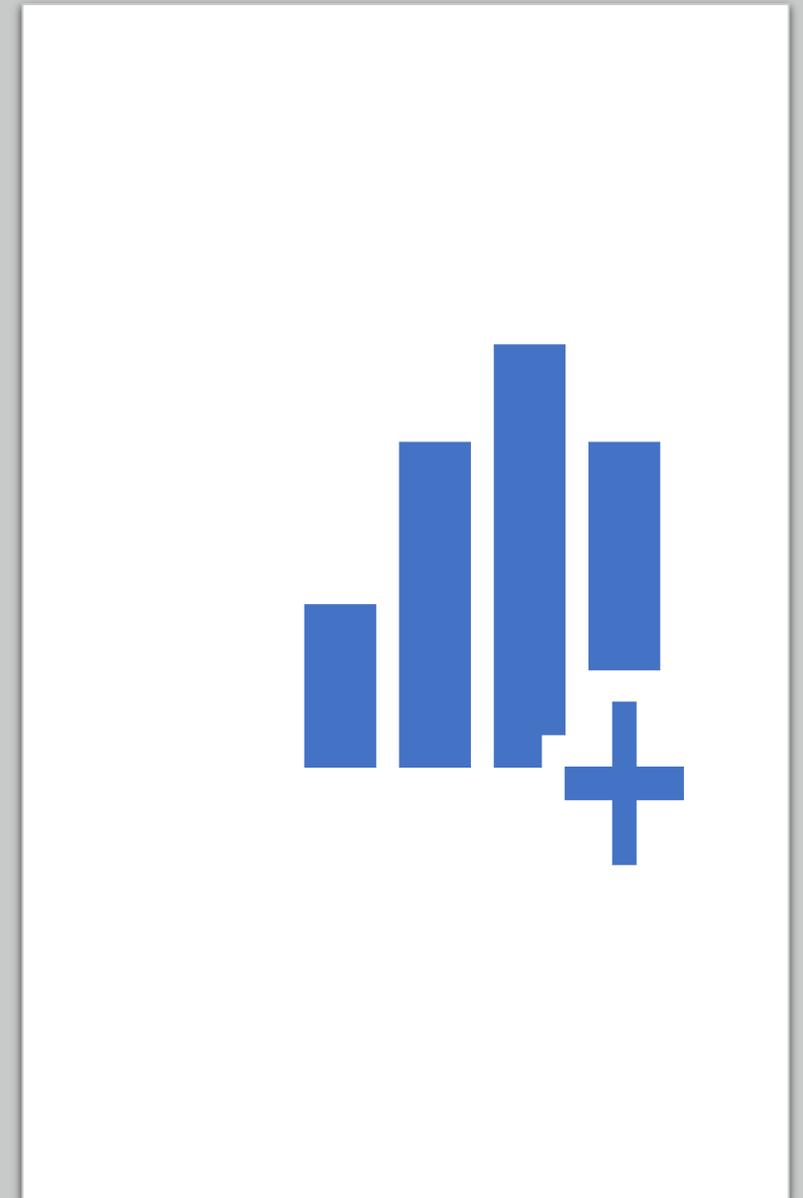
How will my application be assessed?

- *Applications will be reviewed by departmental committees with support from the Dean's office.*

- **Criteria include:**

- 50% cumulative GPA
- 30% Research Potential
 - based on research interest statement and resume
- 20% Supervisor Endorsement
 - based on a good graduate recruitment and summer research learning plan

Results will be sent by mid March Accept or Reject within 2 weeks



TIMELINE

February 10, 2026

- Students MUST have obtained a signed [supervisor endorsement form](#) from the supervisor (to be attached to the student application form)

February 12, 2026, by 9 am

- **Application Deadline**-Last day to apply to award(s)

March 13-21, 2026

Award results will be announced

May-August, 2026

- Awards will be held (16 mandatory weeks)

August 13, 2026

- Mandatory participation in the Lassonde Undergraduate Summer Student Research Conference

Applying to another Faculty?

- **Many faculties at York University (or elsewhere) host NSERC USRA or other summer research students**

- Faculty of Science
 - Stuart Macgregor: smac1@yorku.ca
 - Joanne Sequeira: sequeira@yorku.ca
- Faculty of Health (contact Department directly)
- Kinesiology and Health Science (KAHS): ugkhs@yorku.ca
- Global Health (GLBH): sgl@yorku.ca
- Psychology (PSYC): psyc@yorku.ca
- School of Health Policy and Management (SHPM): shpm@yorku.ca
- Nursing (NURS): nursing@yorku.ca



Questions?

