2023 Undergraduate Summer Research Information Session
USRA and LURA
Meet the Research Support Team at Lassonde

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GUEST
Information Sessions

Information sessions

• January 17, 2022 - 11 am - 12 pm, BRG 125
• February 6, 2022 - 6 pm - 7 pm, Zoom

Drop-In sessions

Zoom links on Lassonde Webpage.

• January 26, 2023, 2 pm – 3 pm, Zoom
• February 13, 2023, 9 am – 10 am, Zoom

Contact

• General email – resday@yorku.ca
WHAT ARE THESE AWARDS
NSERC USRA

• Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada Undergraduate Student Research Award
• Up to 18 Awards (TBC)
• Unlimited positions for Indigenous and black identifying Students who meet the qualifications

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

LURA

• Lassonde Undergraduate Research Award
• 45 awards available + 1st year Co-op Women in Engineering (must be enrolled in this pilot)
Summer Undergraduate Research Conference

All students are required to present at the annual Lassonde Undergraduate Research Conference

- End of Summer 2023 (Week of August 14 TBC)
- >100 undergraduate student participants (LURA, NSERC USRA, Mitacs globalink, Research assistants, etc.)
- Network with Faculty members

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
- Build your resume and get job experience related to your major

Learn more: https://lassonde.yorku.ca/research
The experience was nothing short of phenomenal; my supervisor was able to piece together a virtual, collaborative environment between myself and the other summer researchers.

Four months of working alongside a team and being able to play off each other's strengths, allowed for me to put together a cohesive body of work in time for the end-of-summer research conference.

I loved this experience so much that I decided to propel my project forward during the 20/21 academic year as a LURA student!

- Rashiq Shahad, Mechanical Engineering student supervised by Cuiying Jian
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 bachelor's degree program at an eligible institution
- have obtained, over the previous years of study, a “B” cumulative average

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

Learn more: https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC_eng.asp
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
- be engaged on a full-time basis in 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
- All full-time undergraduate students who meet the requirements for the project (as determined by professors)
- 1 year completed by the time of the award is preferred
  - Exemption: Ist Year Co-op Women in Engineering
- Students may not enroll in more than two (2) three-credit courses during the tenure of the award.
  - Applicants are encouraged to discuss this with their potential supervisor prior to endorsement.
Lassonde Co-op

▷ Both USRA and LURA can count as Co-op for eligible students

▷ Contact the Co-op office for more information
  • lsecoop@lassonde.yorku.ca.

▷ More information about Co-op can be found on their website
  • https://coop.lassonde.yorku.ca/
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 13, 2023
Supervisor Endorsement Form signed

3. Submit the application online

Deadline is February 15, 2023
Guidelines
Use Fluidreview to apply (You only need to submit one application for both awards!)
1) 2023 Lassonde Undergraduate Research

Top section:
• Application Timeline
• Competition details, guidelines, and instructions

Bottom Section:
• Browse Projects
2) Find a Host Supervisor

- You will have to reach out to a professor to convey your interest in working for them prior to making a submission.
- A supervisor must endorse you for a position prior to submitting on FluidReview!
- Fill out Supervisor Endorsement Form and have it signed.
2) Find a Host Supervisor

- Proper email communication with the professor is critical
- Email etiquette
- Suggest attaching your resume and unofficial transcript, or at have it ready at this stage
- Can reach out to 2 or 3 professors, but remember you can only obtain and submit one endorsement form (i.e. choose one project)
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
3) How to I submit my application?

- **FluidReview**
  - Register for an account -
- Start application to “LURA USRA Competition 2023”
- Upload all documents to FluidReview
- General Information
  - **Contact Details**
  - **Self-Identification Form (Voluntary)**
- Supervisor Endorsement Form
- Research Interest Statement
- Resume
- Transcript
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.

• 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.
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
- **All students** must upload unofficial transcripts
- **Non-York students** also 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

Students Awarded a USRA
- Students awarded an NSERC USRA will need to provide official transcripts to NSERC at a later date.
How will my application be assessed?

• Applications will be reviewed by an adjudication committee

• Criteria include:
  • GPA – 60%
  • Research Potential – 30%
  • Communication – 10%

• Results will be sent by end of March
• Accept or Reject within 2 weeks
Applying to another Faculty?

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

  • Faculty of Science
    • Stuart Macgregor: mac1@yorku.ca
    • Joanne Sequeira: sequeira@yorku.ca
  • Faculty of Health (contact Department directly)
    • Kinesiology and Health Science (KAHS): uggkhs@yorku.ca
    • Global Health (GLBH): sgh@yorku.ca
    • Psychology (PSYC): psyc@yorku.ca
    • School of Health Policy and Management (SHPM): shpm@yorku.ca
    • Nursing (NURS): nursing@yorku.ca
Awards in the Faculty of Science

To apply and browse available projects, please visit:

- 16 ENURAs (Earle Nessman Undergraduate Research Awards) will be offered in addition to the USRAs.
- For more information, students should email Stuart Macgregor (smac1@yorku.ca) or Joanne Sequeira (sequeira@yorku.ca)

Information Session
Wednesday, February 1st, 2023 at 1:30 pm via zoom

https://yorku.zoom.us/j/92681625241?pwd=YXZibVB2bGpYdU5kYzVVNGlUQTw2dz09
Meeting ID: 926 8162 5241
Passcode: 777138
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