

Office of the Vice Dean  
**Research and Health Science Education (RHSE)**  
**2024 Undergraduate Summer Research Studentship (USRS)**

**2024 APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

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The Department of Physiology invites applications from undergraduate students for the Research and Health Science Education (RHSE) Undergraduate Summer Research Studentship (USRS). The Office of the Vice Dean, Research and Health Science Education, Temerty Faculty of Medicine will award one undergraduate summer research project studentship to support a major and/or specialist student in our department. Non-University of Toronto students should have equivalent qualifications. The USRS studentship provides students with the opportunity to gain valuable mentored research experience during the summer session.

Students accepted into the program will work on a specific research project under the supervision of a faculty member and may meet on a weekly basis for group seminars and discussion at the discretion of their supervisor.

All students are required to:

- Submit a written final report with a length of at least three double-spaced pages (not including references)
- Give a 10–15-minute presentation of their research at the end of July (date to be determined).
- Both the report and presentation should address the nature of research conducted by the student including: the scientific background relevant for the research topic, objectives/hypotheses, methodology, results, discussion, and conclusions.
- The supervisor should provide the student with feedback on the report and presentation, and a copy of the final report must be submitted to the Program Coordinator by August 31, 2024.
- The student's final report will be part of a required activity report to be submitted by the Program Coordinator to the Office of the Vice Dean.

**Students are responsible for contacting the professors of their choice to inquire about research projects and laboratory space.** A list of potential supervisors and their research interests is available by accessing the faculty list (<https://physiology.utoronto.ca/research-platforms>). Interested students should contact potential supervisors directly to arrange an appointment to meet. Most professors will ask the student to bring their academic record and a resume or curriculum vitae to the initial interview.

**Award Duration:**

- Students are expected to engage in full-time research for at least 12 weeks as agreed upon with the supervisor from May to August to be able to qualify for the full stipend of **\$5,000** (\$2,500 from RHSE; \$2,500 from the Departmental Research Supervisor). Should a supervisor wish to continue the research beyond 12 weeks, it is strongly recommended that the student be compensated accordingly by the supervisor.

**Eligibility:**

- Students must have a minimum B+ average in the two terms of undergraduate studies immediately preceding award acceptance and must complete a full-time study term directly prior to the award period.
- Students who have completed an undergraduate degree and have been accepted into a graduate program but have not yet begun are eligible to apply.
- A student must have a genuine interest in pursuing graduate studies in the life/health sciences.
- University of Toronto and non-University of Toronto students may be considered, including international students (with valid student visa for the full summer work term).
- Students must be supervised by a faculty member of the Department of Physiology.
- Students may only submit one application to this program and each professor may only sponsor one student. Failure to comply with this rule may result in the application being denied.
- Students cannot accept multiple summer research awards at the same time.
- Be engaged on a full-time basis in research activities under the direction of an eligible supervisor.
- Preference will be given to students who have an interest in future graduate training, a research career in physiology and who have taken at least an introductory course in Physiology.
- No restrictions on research topics.

**Interested students should:**

1. Seek a position with a faculty member of the Department of Physiology who is willing to supervise you and to complete the sponsorship agreement form providing a minimum of \$2,500 for the duration of the studentship program (i.e., minimum 12 weeks between May to August).
2. Submit a complete application by **February 27, 2024**, including the application form, resume or curriculum vitae (CV), list of 2-3 references, copy of official academic transcript(s), and the sponsorship agreement letter. Only complete applications received by the deadline date from students meeting the eligibility criteria will be reviewed.

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APPLICATION FORM

STUDENT INFORMATION				
<b>First Name:</b>		<b>Last Name:</b>		<b>Student #:</b>
<b>Address:</b>			<b>Unit #:</b>	
<b>City:</b>	<b>Province/State:</b>	<b>Postal/Zip Code:</b>	<b>Country:</b>	
<b>Telephone #:</b>		<b>Email:</b>		

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND		
<b>Program of Study:</b>	<b>University:</b>	<b>Year of Study:</b>
<b>Physiology courses that you have taken</b> (Course Name / Course Code / Course Mark):   		
<b>Statement of research interest and future goals:</b>         		
<b>Previous research and/or other relevant experience</b> (attach another page if necessary):         		

## SUPERVISOR INFORMATION

(Must be a Department of Physiology Faculty Member)

First Name:	Last Name:
Telephone #:	Email:
Name of Laboratory Business/Grants Officer:	Email of Laboratory Business/Grants Officer:

## PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT

Research Topic:

It is the responsibility of the supervisor to ensure that the student has the appropriate safety / ethics training. List all relevant protocol numbers under which the student will be working:

<b>FUNDING SOURCES</b>	Research and Health Science Education:	\$2,500
	Departmental Research Supervisor:	\$2,500
	TOTAL FUNDING FOR STUDENT:	

Student  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Please attach:

- Current résumé or curriculum vitae (CV)
- List of 2-3 references with their contact information (professors or employers)
- Copy of up-to-date academic transcript
- Completed supervisor agreement letter

Submit applications to:

[physiology.undegrad@utoronto.ca](mailto:physiology.undegrad@utoronto.ca)

Application Deadline: **February 27, 2024**

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Date

Undergraduate Program  
Department of Physiology  
Medical Sciences Building  
1 King's College Circle,  
Room 3368 Toronto, ON  
M5S 1A8

Dear Awards Committee:

**RE: RHSE 2024 Undergraduate Summer Research Studentship Supervisor Agreement Letter**

I agree to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ for a Research and Health Science Education (RHSE) Undergraduate Summer Research Studentship in my laboratory during the summer of 2024. I understand that I am only allowed to sponsor one student for this program.

I agree to assign a suitable research project, to supervise this student throughout the summer program, and to ensure that the student has the appropriate safety / ethics training. I understand that the student is expected to work for an agreed upon duration of at least 12 weeks during the summer.

I also agree to provide a stipend of at least \$2,500 for this student if the student is granted a RHSE Undergraduate Summer Research Studentship. The Departmental Research Supervisor will provide \$2,500 and the RHSE Office in the Temerty Faculty of Medicine will provide the student with an additional \$2,500 for a total stipend of \$5,000.

Sincerely,

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Signature of Supervisor