



Undergraduate Research Awards Application

Science Undergraduate Research Awards (SURA)

Science Emerging Researcher Awards (SERA)

Overview of award

Introduction

Research is an important and enjoyable component of an undergraduate experience and can be a helpful guide in planning a career. The Science Undergraduate Research Awards (SURA) and Science Emerging Research Awards (SERA) enable undergraduate students to engage in research projects on campus under the supervision of a faculty member (research-stream or teaching-stream) in the Faculty of Science. An adjunct faculty member in any of these academic units can be a co-supervisor.

Six SURA awards are available each year, one per department/school. The SURA is open to all students in the Faculty of Science who meet the eligibility criteria outlined below.

Three SERA awards are available each year (one selected by each of BCMB, BIOL and SEOS in even years and CHEM, MATH and PHYS in odd years). The SERA is intended to support members of one or more under-represented groups.

Award details

- The student holding the award must perform research under the supervision or co-supervision of a regular faculty member in the Faculty of Science at UVic. If co-supervised, both supervisors must be specified and sign the application.
- It is expected that a student holding an award would work full-time on a research project for a term of 14-16 consecutive weeks over one academic term. A student may take up the award in the Summer (May-Aug), Fall (Sep-Dec), or Winter (Jan-Apr) term, as agreed between the student and their supervisor.
- The awards are not intended to support a student performing research on a part-time basis, or for research performed outside the term during which the student is to be engaged in their research project.

Value of awards

The SURA provides \$4000 from the Faculty of Science, plus a minimum of \$4000 from the research supervisor. Funding for these awards was provided by the late Eva Moody.

The SERA provides \$5000 from the Faculty of Science, plus a minimum of \$3500 from the research supervisor.

Who is eligible for an award?

To be eligible for a SURA or SERA award, at the time of application a candidate must:

- be registered as a full-time undergraduate student in the Faculty of Science at the University of Victoria in the current Winter Session (Sept-April) and be in good standing;

- have completed at least 30 units of course credits toward a BSc degree;
- have a cumulative GPA of 6.0 or higher.

In addition to the above criteria, an applicant for the SERA must belong to one or more under-represented groups as defined by Tri-Agency Dimensions Charter. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Métis and Inuit)
- Persons with disabilities
- Members of visible minority/racialized groups
- Members of LGBTQ+ communities
- Women

Preference for the SERA is given to Canadian or International Indigenous Students.

How are students selected for the award?

Applications are adjudicated by the applicable Department/School Awards committee. A faculty member from the Department/School EDI committee will serve on the Awards Committee to ensure the EDI principles are upheld.

How do you apply?

To apply for this award, students must complete and submit the SURA-SERA Application to the general office of the supervisor's home department.

- Student applicants should complete parts 1A and 1B, save the application on their computer and email the completed electronic form to their proposed supervisor.
- The supervisor should then complete part 2.
- The application must be signed by the student and the supervisor(s) before being submitted.

A student may submit an application for multiple research awards (SURA, SERA, NSERC USRA, BioCan Rx Studentship, BC Cancer Studentship, etc.) but may only accept one of the awards offered per academic year.

Application deadline

The deadline is set by the Departments/School of the Faculty of Science. Please monitor [their respective websites](#) for details. Students and supervisors will be notified as soon as possible thereafter as to whether their applications have been successful.



Undergraduate Research Awards Application

Part 1A - Student Application

Surname: _____ Given name: _____ Student #: V0 _____

Email: _____ Program (e.g. BSc Chemistry): _____

Which awards are you applying for? (it is possible to apply for both): SURA ☐ SERA ☐

Intended term to take up award: Summer ☐ Winter ☐ Fall ☐

I have applied for other research awards this year:

☐ NSERC-USRA ☐ BIOCAN RX Studentship ☐ BC Cancer Studentship ☐ Other: _____

If you have previously held a research award at UVic, please list the award, supervisor and dates:

Eligibility: To determine your eligibility for the SURA and SERA awards, please indicate which of the following statements apply to you:

- ☐ I am registered as a full-time student (12 units or higher) for a BSc degree in the Faculty of Science at the University of Victoria in the current Winter Session (Sept-April), **OR**
- ☐ I am registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning for an accommodated workload for a bachelor's degree in the Faculty of Science at the University of Victoria in the current Winter Session (Sept-April). I have attached a copy of my "Letter of Accommodation" to this application.
- ☐ I have completed at least 30 units of course credits toward a BSc degree.
- ☐ I intend to continue full-time undergraduate studies in the term immediately following the research project.
- ☐ I have a cumulative GPA of 6.0 or higher.

Self-identification: If you are applying for the SERA, please indicate all statements that apply to you:

- ☐ I am a Canadian Indigenous student (First Nations, Inuit or Métis).
- ☐ I am an International Indigenous student.
- ☐ I identify as a woman.
- ☐ I am a member of one or more under-represented groups, including but not limited to:
- members of visible minority/racialized groups and;
 - persons with visible and/or invisible (physical and/or mental) disabilities; and
 - persons of marginalized sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.



Undergraduate Research Awards Application
Part 1B - Student Application

In 300 words or less, describe why you wish to do a research project.

Student Signature

Date

Print name



Undergraduate Research Awards Application

Part 2A – Faculty Research Supervisor

Supervisor Information:

Name: _____ Dept: _____

Email: _____

Co-Supervisor Information (if applicable):

Name: _____ Dept: _____

Email: _____

External grant funding used for matching contribution:

Agency: _____ Program: _____

Project Title: _____

1) In 300 words or less, describe the proposed summary project, including a rough timeline:

2) In 300 words or less, describe the student's role in the proposed project:

3) Funding commitment to student: _____

_____ Supervisor Signature	_____ Print name	_____ Date
_____ Co-supervisor Signature	_____ Print name	_____ Date

By their signature, the faculty member agrees to at least match the financial contribution of the SURA to the student and/or to contribute a minimum of \$3,500 to the student for the SERA award.