2019 NSERC USRA Information Session

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Faculty of Science
What is a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA)?

• NSERC USRAs enable undergraduate students the opportunity to gain hands-on research experience under the supervision of one of York’s NSERC funded faculty members

• These awards are meant to stimulate your interest in the natural sciences and engineering and encourage you to pursue graduate school and/or research-related industry careers
What is a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA)?

- **Amount**: students supported by an NSERC USRA award will receive a minimum of $5,625 over a 16-week period (April 29, 2019-August 19, 2019)
  - $4,500 from NSERC
  - $1,125 from your supervisor

- **Deadline**: Check with your proposed supervisor’s home Faculty to confirm deadline dates
Eligibility: *Students*

In order to apply, you must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- You are a **Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada**
- You are **registered** (at the time you apply) in a bachelor’s degree program at an eligible university
- You have obtained, over the previous years of study, a cumulative average of at least “B”. Please note, these awards are **extremely competitive**
- At the time you apply, you have completed the requirements for your first year of university study (two academic terms)
Eligibility: *Students*

You are **NOT** eligible if:

- You have previously received a total of **three** NSERC USRAs
- You are currently enrolled in an undergraduate **professional** degree program in the health sciences (e.g., MD, DDS, BScN)
Eligibility: Faculty

Your proposed supervisor must:
• Hold an active NSERC research grant
  • Discovery Grant
  • CREATE
  • Strategic Research Partnerships
How to apply:

• Students must identify a supervisor who is willing to support their application

• Form 202 must be completed using NSERC’s on-line system
  • **Part I**: completed by the student
  • A ‘Reference Number’ will be generated when you begin filling out Part I – this number must be forwarded to your supervisor
  • **Part II**: filled out by the supervisor
  • Transcripts will be provided by departmental Administrative Assistants (home faculty)
How to apply:

• At this stage, you **DO NOT** need to upload your transcript. If your application is successful in the competition, you will be contacted with instructions
  
  **Please note: without your transcript uploaded, you will **NOT** be able to submit the application online – **this is OK**

• Once Form 202 Parts I and II are complete, a hardcopy must be submitted to your proposed supervisor’s department

Please check with the Departmental office to confirm their internal deadline
Important Links

• NSERC’s website:
  http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca

• NSERC’s on-line system:
  https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_login_e.htm

• NSERC registration:
  https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_register_e.htm

• Form 202 Instructions:
  http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/202/e.asp
The Decision Process

• Each faculty ranks the USRA applications they receive (total of 47 awards)
  • Speak to your faculty or department to confirm their deadlines and internal processes

• In Science, 21 awards will be granted based primarily on GPA
• ~ Equal distribution of awards to all FSc Departments
• Successful applicants will be notified in March
• Aboriginal applicants with a B GPA are successful and not included in the University quota.
• Supplemental awards may also be available for the fall and winter terms
Where to go for assistance

• Your proposed supervisor

• The Departmental office to which you are applying

• NSERC
  Email: webapp@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
  Phone: 613-947-0428 (general questions)
  or
  613-995-4273 (problems with the on-line system)
Where to go for assistance

• The Faculty of Science Research Officer (FSc, LA&PS, Schulich and FES)
  Stefanie Bernaudo                      Joanne Sequeira
  Lumbers, 319                           Lumbers, 355
  Email: sbr@yorku.ca                    Email: adminres@yorku.ca
  Phone: x21087                          Phone: x22397

• Lassonde School of Engineering Research/Awards Officer
  (Lassonde)
  Christina Corre
  Email: resday@yorku.ca
  Phone: x44108

• The Faculty of Health Research Officer (FH and Glendon)
  Tasnuva Hasan
  Email: hasant@yorku.ca
  Phone: x22918