

DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY AND TOXICOLOGY NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA)

2019 APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology has been allocated one NSERC USRA position for the summer of 2019. This year's award recipient will train under the supervision of **Dr. Walter Swardfager** on a project related to his NSERC-funded research program. This award provides UofT and non-UofT undergraduate students with an opportunity to gain valuable research experience during the summer session.

The student is required to submit a written final report with a length of at least three double-spaced pages (not including references) and give a 10-15 minute oral presentation of their research to the department in August. Both forms of presentation should address the nature of research conducted by the student including: the scientific background relevant for the research topic, objectives/hypotheses, methodology, results, and discussion and conclusions. The supervisor should provide the student with feedback on the written and oral presentation, and must submit a copy of the final report to the Program Coordinator by **August 31, 2019**.

Duration:

- Students are expected to engage in full-time research for 16 full consecutive weeks between May 1 and September 30, as agreed upon with the supervisor. The full stipend is a minimum of \$5,625 (\$4,500 from NSERC + a minimum of \$1,125 paid by the sponsoring professor).

Eligibility:

- Students must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada.
- Registered either full-time or part-time (at the time of application) in a bachelor's degree program in at least one of the two terms immediately before holding the award. NSERC, however, expects that most awards will be held by full-time students.
- Must have obtained, over the previous years of study, a cumulative average of at least second class (a grade of B or B-, if applicable).
- Must have completed, at the time of application by March 18, 2019, a minimum of two academic terms/semesters. Note that current first-year students are therefore excluded.
- Graduating students may hold the award in the term immediately following the completion of their undergraduate program requirements, as long as they have not started a program of graduate studies.
- A student may hold only one USRA per fiscal year and may hold a maximum of three USRAs throughout his/her university career.

Students participating in this program cannot receive a course credit (e.g., PCL472Y or PCL474Y) for this work. However, students on a co-op work term or PEY placement are eligible if all other criteria are met.

Interested students should:

Submit the following documentation directly to Dr. Swardfager (w.swardfager@utoronto.ca) by **March 1, 2019**: a resume or curriculum vitae (CV), a list of references, and an official academic transcript(s). After the top-ranked applicant has been identified by Dr. Swardfager and agreement has been reached between the student and supervisor, the student will be required to complete the NSERC on-line application well in advance of the University of Toronto deadline of **March 18, 2019**.

Full program details can be found via this link...

<http://www.research.utoronto.ca/research-funding-opportunities/undergraduate-student-research-award/>