UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

2018-2019

A compilation of opportunities to help Western undergraduate students get started!

*Please note this list is not exhaustive.
Tip: Click on the underlined research program titles to be directed to their respective website!
Biochemistry Undergraduate Summer Research Program (BUSRP)

General Info
- Website has not been updated for summer 2019 as of November 2018**
- A stipend of $6000 will be paid to each student
- Work term is 16 weeks from May to mid-August

Eligibility
- 2nd-year students who have achieved a grade of 85% or higher in Biochemistry 2280A (no exceptions)
- 3rd-year students who have achieved a grade of 75% or higher in Biochemistry 3381A (no exceptions)
- Your Intent to Register selection must make you eligible to perform a 4th-year research project in the lab of a Biochemistry faculty member

How to apply
- Join the OWL BUSRP site (will become available during winter)
- Fill application form and submit a resume, unofficial transcript, and letter of reference

Deadline: Early March 2019

Dean’s Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (DUROP)

General Info
- Website has not been updated for summer 2019, check back in January 2019**
- 20 positions available last summer (May-August)
- Hands-on biomedical research experience under an experienced Schulich Medicine & Dentistry Researcher
- $6000 stipend ($3000 from Schulich Medicine & Dentistry + $3000 from research supervisor)

Eligibility
- Science and Basic Medical Science undergraduate students

How to apply
- CV highlighting research experience to date
- A copy of all post-secondary grades (unofficial copy is acceptable)
- A maximum 300-word statement written by trainee indicating why they wish to pursue this opportunity
- 3 approved projects and supervisors that interest them most
- 2 reference letters commenting on the overall excellence of the candidate (not part of the integrated PDF file)

Deadline: TBA
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC): Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA)

General Info
- Attain a cumulative average of at least a grade of B or B-
- Hold a maximum of three university USRAs throughout your undergraduate career
- Have completed all the course requirements of at least the first year of university study (or two academic terms) of your bachelor's degree
- 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 during the tenure of the award
- Value of $4,500 for a full 16-week period
- Contact the Faculty you wish to apply through (for application process, and list of eligible supervisors)
  - Ivey Business School: Carly Vanderheyden (cvanderheyden@ivey.ca)
  - Faculty of Health Sciences: Gord MacDonald (gmacdon5@uwo.ca)
  - Faculty of Social Sciences: Pankhuri Malik (pmalik8@uwo.ca)
    - Geography: Maggie Morris (mmorr53@uwo.ca)
    - Psychology: Kim Baxter (kbaxter7@uwo.ca)
  - Faculty of Science: Pam Brown (ppjbrown@uwo.ca)
  - Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry: Stacey Bastien (stacey.bastien@schulich.uwo.ca)
  - Faculty of Engineering: Whitney Barrett (whitney.barrett@uwo.ca)

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry
- List of eligible faculty members available from:
  - Stacy Bastien in Clinical Skills Building; room 2720
  - Joan Estabrooks in Medical Sciences Building; room 138
  - List will NOT be available online**
- Recipients expected to be selected by early March 2019
- Preference to second and third year students
- NSERC URSA Info Session slides: Click here

Deadline: January 21, 2019 (Submit forms to Clinical Skills Building; room 2720)

Biology

Deadline: January 10, 2019
Physics and Astronomy Department

General Info

- Guarantees a paid internship for every undergraduate student registered in one of the core specialization programs of the Department
- The Department facilitates a wide range of positions in academic and industrial settings, and will ensure that each student has had at least one summer internship experience by the beginning of their fourth year

Deadline: N/A

Physics and Astronomy Summer Research Fellowship

General Info

- Website has not been updated for summer 2019 as of November 2018**

Eligibility

- Awarded to an outstanding first-year physics student
- Work with a P&A Faculty member-led research group for 12 weeks in the summer
- Applicants must have successfully completed Physics 1301/1401/1501 and be in good standing in Physics 1302/1402/1502 or WiSc1001X Physics at the time of their application

How to apply

- Visit the website and choose from the list of Undergraduate research projects
- Contact your potential supervisor to discuss working with them
- Submit pdf files of the following to Jennifer Tilston (jennifer.tilston@uwo.ca):
  - An academic Letter of Recommendation
  - Referees can submit letters directly to email
  - One-page personal statement on your long-term goals and your interest in research participation

Last cycle* Deadline: March 5, 2018 at 5 p.m.

Bone and Joint Institute: Summer Research Studentship

General Info

- Musculoskeletal research
- Students participate in lunch and learn sessions, present results at summer research symposium
- 14-week program

Deadline: March 2019
NRC Student Employment Program

General Info

• Provides students with practical career-related experience in research and development, library sciences, communications, marketing, and other areas
• A 16-week program (May to mid-August)
• Salaries are based on the number of academic semesters a student has completed

Eligibility

• Need a minimum B average or equivalent and to be studying at a recognized educational institution
• Returning to full-time studies in the next semester

How to apply

• Submit your transcript and resume/CV

Last cycle* Deadline: October 1 - August 31, 2018 (rolling application)

- GTA -

Baycrest Health Sciences: Summer Students

General Info

• Hands-on research experience in a laboratory clinical setting with a Baycrest Scientist
• 12-week work period, about 35 hours/week

Eligibility

• Students enrolled in an undergraduate degree (Years 1-4)
• Medical School students

How to Apply

• Submit online application with resume/CV
• Contact information of two referees (academic preferred)
• Cover letter indicating the area of research you are interested in and the scientists with whom you would like to work
• Unofficial transcript

Last cycle* Deadline: April 15, 2018 (rolling application)

Hurvitz Brain Sciences Summer Student Research Program

General Info

• Summer studentships typically run from May to September

Eligibility

• Students must be enrolled in a university program and have a B+ average in their most recent academic year
• Students are required to contact scientists with whom they wish to work

Deadline: Late March/ Early April 2019
D+H Summer Student Research Program at Sunnybrook Research Institute

General Info
- Allows hospital-based research experience
- Provides orientation, weekly seminar series, and end-of-summer research project competition
- Summer stipend ranges from $6,300 - $7,000

Eligibility
- Students must be enrolled in a university program and have a B+ average in their most recent academic year
- Students are responsible for contacting PIs directly

Deadline: Early April 2019

St. Michael’s Hospital: Keenan Research Summer Student (KRSS) Program

General Info
- Conduct research in a laboratory and/or clinical setting at St. Michael's under the supervision of a principal investigator (scientist and/or MD)
- Paid or volunteer
- Registration packages will be distributed to PIs and their students in late March/Early April 2019

Eligibility
- Students enrolled in a full time undergraduate degree can apply

How to apply
- Students must first align themselves with a St. Michael's PI. Look at the list of PIs and select a few who conduct research relevant to your interests

Deadline: Late March 2019

SickKids Summer Research Program (SSuRe)

General Info
- Research in lab or clinical setting at SickKids under supervision of Research Institute scientist
- 15 weeks, from early May to mid-August
- Includes weekly seminars, Annual Summer Student Symposium
- Oral presentation of results of summer projects in poster format: 7 outstanding students
- Paid $14.00 + 4% vacation
- Typically Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. work week, variations discussed with supervisors

Eligibility
- Students enrolled in undergraduate program at time of application
- Canadian residents or landed immigrants
- No minimum GPA (strong GPA advantageous)
How to apply
- Must apply directly to the scientist via the method of application indicated on the posting
- Application form, resume, current university transcripts, one reference letter
- Only those selected for interview contacted

Last cycle deadline: January 31, 2018

UofT Lab Medicine and Pathobiology: Summer Student Research Program

General Info
- 12-week full-time research program starting mid-May
- Comprised of three obligatory elements: a laboratory research experience, attendance at weekly lectures, and presentation of a poster during Summer Student Poster Day
- Students receive a minimum $4,000 stipend provided by their supervisor

Eligibility
- At least a B+ (GPA of 3.3) average
- Secure an LMP faculty supervisor through the LMP Faculty Research Database prior to submitting an application form, email is preferred
- Applicants (including those who will be located in a hospital) must submit an Application Form demonstrating an interest in biomedical research and a transcript or statement of results showing marks for all University courses completed.
  o A CV detailing previous lab experience is helpful

Deadline: Mid-March 2019

UofT Department of Biochemistry: Summer Student Program

General Info
- Participate in research projects in molecular and cellular biology, protein structure and dynamics, membrane biology, computational biology, drug discovery and infectious diseases under the guidance of a Biochemistry faculty member (list will be finalized in December)
- Students will also attend weekly seminars and present a summary of their project results in mid-August
- 12-week program from May to August

Eligibility
- Successfully completed at least one year in a full-time undergraduate program
- Obtained a cumulative average of at least B+ (GPA of 3.3 or higher)
- Completed or currently completing an introductory biochemistry lecture and/or laboratory course

How to apply
- Application form (available at end of November)
- Resume/CV
- Official transcript in a sealed envelope with official seal from Western
- A list of midterm marks in progress
- A maximum of 2 optional references who are familiar with your most recent work

Deadline: February 6, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.
**UofT Department of Medical Biophysics: Summer Student Program**

**General Info**

- Application link will be available in early December**
- Participate in interdisciplinary biological, medical and cancer research
- Minimum 12-week program, from the second week of May to the end of August
- Students also expected to attend weekly lunchtime seminars and present their work at the Summer Student Poster Day
- Applications will be reviewed by faculty members who will then choose potential students and contact them for interviews

**Eligibility**

- Undergraduate students in their 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year of study; or co-op students in their 4th (out of 5) year
- Obtained a cumulative average of at least B+ (GPA of 3.3 or higher)

**How to apply**

- Application form
- 2 online references (contact info)
- Unofficial transcript (for the online application)

**Deadline:** January 14, 2019

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**UofT Faculty of Pharmacy: Undergraduate Summer Research Program**

**General Info**

- Undergraduate students can participate in research in the following under the supervision of a Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty member:
  - Molecular basis of drug targets and diseases
  - Drug development and disease diagnostics
  - Drug safety
  - Health services
  - Clinical pharmacy
- Students attend laboratory safety training sessions and seminar presentations by faculty members
- In mid-August, students present their research projects to their peers and the rest of the Faculty
- Duration: May 6 to August 23, 2019 (12-16 weeks)
- Applicants are automatically considered for awards (NSERC, Life Sciences, CIHR)
- Paid $4000-$6000 for the summer position

**Eligibility**

- Must have completed at least one year in a full-time undergraduate degree program;
- Must have an average of 75% or higher to be eligible for scholarship competition;
- Must be supervised by a Pharmaceutical Sciences faculty member.

**How to apply**

- Transcript, letter of intent, and curriculum vitae, [application Form]

**Deadline:** January 18, 2019
UofT Department of Molecular Genetics: Summer Research Program

General Info

- Addresses questions of fundamental importance in molecular, cellular, and developmental biology using bacteriophage, bacteria, yeast, flies, nematodes, and mammalian cells as model systems
- The program runs for 12 weeks, from May to August
- Students will attend seminars, journal club meetings, and the summer students' poster session

Eligibility

- Applicants should have an average of B+ or higher
- Application must be mailed in or submitted in person to the departmental office

How to apply

- Browse the research interests of the faculty
- Directly contact faculty member(s) with your resume, unofficial transcript, cover letter, and description of your research experience and career goals
- Submit an application form signed by your supervisor

Deadline: Mid-March 2019

UofT Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering: Summer Research Program

General Info

- 12-, 14-, or 16-week program (May to August) offered by the Institute of Biomaterial & Biomedical Engineering (IBBME) - placements on campus or at a partner hospital
- Students work in a biomedical engineering research setting, participate in workshops and career talks, and present their research at a mini-symposium at the end of the program

Eligibility

- Open to current full- or part-time undergraduate students at an accredited university
- Must have completed at least one full year of an undergraduate program
- Must be enrolled in one of the following areas of general study at the time of application:
  - Dentistry, Engineering, Medicine, Science (including computer-related sciences)
- Applicants must have Canadian citizenship, residency, or a valid study permit

How to apply

- Applicants are strongly encouraged to secure a research supervisor prior to submitting
- Submit a statement of intent, your CV, an unofficial transcript, and GPA (grade conversion tool)
- Applicants may apply to NSERC USRA as a funding source if the supervisor holds an NSERC grant (separate application, see above in this document)
- An official transcript must be mailed from Western after completion of the online form

Last cycle* deadline: February 21, 2018 at 10 a.m.
**UofT Institute of Medical Science: Summer Undergraduate Research Program**

**General Info**
- Projects range across a broad spectrum of disciplines and will take place in a lab or clinical setting
- 12-week program, June to August
- Students are given the opportunity to show their work with an oral or poster presentation in mid-August at Research Day
- Applicants required to contact supervisors before submitting their application
  - A list of faculty members will be available at the end of December

**Eligibility**
- Pursuing an undergraduate science degree program
- Obtained a cumulative average of B+ (GPA of 3.3) or higher
  - A- (GPA of 3.7) to apply for IMS funding

**How to apply**
- Domestic Students Application Form (available in December)
- Most recent official transcript
- Resume/CV highlighting awards, abstracts, presentations, publications

**Deadline:** TBA

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**Amgen Scholars Canada Program (UofT)**

**General Info**
- Biomedical research
- 10 weeks in the summer, full-time

**How to apply**
- Fill in Part 1 of the application form
- Two letters of recommendation (preference to faculty members)
- Select 3 potential mentors, briefly describe why you would like to work in each researcher’s lab
- Prepare essay question responses (see website)
- Official transcript
- Resume

**Deadline:** February 1, 2019

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**Bloorview Research Institute: The Ward Family Summer Student Research Program**

**General Info**
- Information on the 2019 Ward Summer Student program will be available soon
- Inquiries can be directed to BRlevents@hollandbloorview.ca

**Deadline:** TBA
Brampton Civic Hospital

General Info
- The Osler Research Department is accepting volunteer research assistants on a rolling basis from various educational backgrounds
- Contact the research department at: (905)-494-2120 x56762 for more information

Eligibility
- Must have a minimum of two years of undergraduate degree or a completed college diploma

Summer Student Research Program

General Info
- Program for students of various backgrounds with a minimum of two years of undergraduate education to gain experience in conducting research and for staff to receive resource support and assist them in bringing research and quality improvement projects to fruition
- Specialties: surgery, pathology, nephrology, palliative care, ophthalmology, laboratory medicine, emergency medicine, infectious disease, equity and inclusion, rheumatology, geriatrics
- 905-494-2120 x56762 or contact Dr. Ravi Bhargava, Corporate Manager of Research (Ravi.Bhargava@williamoslerhs.ca)

Eligibility
- The program is available to undergraduate, graduate, and medical students

How to apply
- email your resume, cover letter, and completed application form to Katelyn Wadleigh and Noha Aref

Last cycle* Deadline: February 2018

Women’s College Research Institute: Summer Student Program

General Info
- Enrolled in undergraduate, graduate, or medical program
- Positions with application details: https://www.womenscollegehospital.ca/about-us/careers
- Notified in February if selected for an interview
- Program typically runs Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for 12-16 weeks
- Students are paid between $12-15/hour based on 37.5 hours/week and 4% vacation pay

Last cycle* deadline: January 19, 2018
Southlake Regional Health Centre: Summer Research Volunteer Program

General Info
- Website has not been updated for Summer 2019 as of November 2018**
- Project is conducted between May to August under supervision of Southlake lead
- Must commit to 60 hours within this timeframe (one full day/week or two half days/week)
- Research projects often focus on:
  - Efficacy of a treatment or intervention; or
  - Describing a patient population; or
  - Evaluating data to identify trends or characteristics of a patient group

Eligibility
- Post-secondary student in second-, third-, or fourth-year
- Have an understanding of research methodology
- Have relevant experience with research, academic, volunteer, and/or work experience
- Ability to perform literature searches

Deadline: Mid-January to end of February 2019

- CALGARY -

Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE)

General Info
- Apply for an award for either 16, 12 or eight weeks to complete research between May and August
- Awards range in value from $3,000 to $6,000 based on the length of the research

Eligibility
- To qualify you just need to be a full-time undergraduate student and have a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher in your current program.

Last cycle* deadline: February 8, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. MT

W21C Initiative Summer Studentship

General Info
- Interdisciplinary summer studentships under a PI at the University of Calgary from May to August
- Applicants must demonstrate commitment to rigorous research practices and an interest in improving public health and health systems outcomes
Summer students will assist in research activities, participate in research learning workshops, conduct presentations, and receive support to submit their research to the annual public health conference.

Eligibility

- Students currently enrolled in post-secondary programs, or who have recently completed their final year of study

Deadline: 

**University of Calgary: ACHRI (Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute) Summer Studentships**

**General Info**

- May-August
- The ACHRI Research Training Platform will provide a monthly stipend of $1000; supervisors are required to supplement with a minimum of $500 per month

**Eligibility**

- Candidates are eligible to apply for the Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI) Summer Studentship if they have secured a training position with a supervisor who is a full member of ACHRI, and whose research program falls within the mandate of ACHRI
- Registered in an undergraduate degree program and desiring to engage in research during the summer months at the University of Calgary
- Can currently be in the last term of your undergraduate degree and have applied to either Medical School or a graduate program commencing in the coming Fall

**How to apply**

- [UCalgary common application system](#)

**Deadline:**

- **February 8 by 4:00 p.m.** (supervisor application, unless otherwise noted)

**Université de Montréal - IRIC Next Generation Awards Program**

**General Info**

- For undergraduate students interested in biomedical (cancer and immunology) research
- 12 to 16 weeks starting in May or June (35 hours/week)
- $4,250 for a 12-week internship
- $5,670 for a 16-week internship
- Click here to view the complete list of projects available for Summer 2019
Eligibility
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- Demonstrate a strong interest in cancer research and in pursuing graduate studies in the field of biomedical research
- Enrolled full-time in an undergraduate program in a field related to life sciences or biomedical research
- Completed at least one year of an undergraduate program in a field related to life sciences or biomedical research when the internship starts
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 out of 4.3 (70%, B, or the equivalent)
- Have not previously received an IRIC Next Generation Award

How to Apply
- Complete the application form
- Submit a letter of intent describing
  - your academic background and past research experiences,
  - your interest in cancer research and for pursuing graduate studies
  - your academic and career goals
  - how will this internship benefit you on a personal, academic and professional level
  - the names of the principal investigators offering the three internship projects that you have selected and the reasons behind this selection
- Submit a transcript of your complete university-level academic record to date
- Submit your resume
- Optional document: A letter of recommendation from a professor or other who can attest to the quality and strength of your academic achievement including, if applicable, any research experience - emailed directly by your referee at bourses@iric.ca

Deadline: January 25th, 2019 5:00 p.m.

Montreal Clinical Research Institute (IRCM): Undergraduate Summer Internships

General Info
- Consult the scientific structure of the IRCM to discuss joining on an internship
- 12-16-week internship starting in May

Eligibility
- Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada, or foreign student with a work permit in Canada
- Enrolled in a bachelor’s degree program in a relevant field related to biomedical research
- Completed at least one year in a bachelor’s program by June 1, 2019
- Demonstrate a strong interest in biomedical research and graduate studies
- Have a cumulative average of 3.3 out of 4.3 (77%, B+, or equivalent)
- Have not previously obtained an IRCM scholarship for young researchers
- Must obtain the support of a research unit director for the submission of the application

Deadline: March 1, 2019 (internship)
Deadline: February 15, 2019 (scholarship)
BC Children’s Hospital Research Institute: Summer Student Research Program

General Info

- 2 components: individual research project and research education program
- 12-week program between May and August
- You must contact and establish a potential supervisor before applying
- You may apply for a BCCHR Summer Studentship for funding ($4,725) or volunteer

Eligibility

- You must be returning to undergraduate or medical studies in the following fall/winter semester to be eligible to apply for funding

Deadline: March 15, 2019 if you are also applying for funding
Deadline: May 15, 2019 if you are volunteering or already have funding from elsewhere

TRIUMF Summer Student Program

General Info

- Jobs offered reflect the broad range of lab research: particle and nuclear physics, material and molecular science, accelerator science, nuclear medicine, plus engineering and computing
- Summer jobs (May-August) will be posted in mid-January

Eligibility

- Application (1/job) consists of:
  - Cover letter
  - Resume
  - Transcript (unofficial)
  - online application form

Deadline: TBA