

The Alberta Innovates Health Solutions (AIHS) Summer Studentship provides funding (\$1500/month for 2-4 months) to support students engaging in medical or health sciences research at the University of Alberta during the summer months (May-August).

The AIHS Summer Studentship program is administered at the University of Alberta by the Undergraduate Research Initiative. **Please do NOT apply directly to AIHS.**

Are you eligible?

Student eligibility criteria:

- ✓ Enrolled in an undergraduate or M.D. program at a post-secondary institution, or a high school student in grade 12 at the time of application.
- ✓ Satisfactory academic standing prior to the start of the project.
- ✓ Available to complete a minimum of 8 consecutive weeks (2 months) of research between May-August 2017.
- ✓ Students may not hold another major research award concurrently (e.g. NSERC, URI Stipend).
- ✓ Have a confirmed supervisor prior to application (see "Supervisor eligibility criteria" below).

Supervisor eligibility criteria:

- ✓ Hold a primary faculty appointment at the University of Alberta.
- ✓ Must be able to provide continuous and direct supervision of the student's project.
- ✓ Supervisors may only support up to TWO students for each AIHS application cycle.

Key changes for 2017:

New application form:

- ⇒ The application is submitted online by the student via Google Forms. An offline Word template is available for students and supervisors to complete together prior to submitting the online form.

New adjudication rubric:

- ⇒ Applications will be adjudicated on the basis of project merit, quality of the proposal, student's role & skill development, and the supervisor's fit & commitment.
- ⇒ Greater emphasis has been placed on the student's contribution to the application. Students are asked to write a project abstract, a statement on their anticipated skill development, and address the relevance of their academic background/past experience to the proposed research.
- ⇒ Supervisors must demonstrate a relevant research track record and sufficient operating funding to support the proposed research.

See FAQ on reverse

Deadline for Applications:

Monday, February 6, 2017

11:59 p.m.

Questions? Please contact:

www.uri.ualberta.ca

aihs.studentships@ualberta.ca

780-248-1933



**Undergraduate
Research
INITIATIVE**

Frequently Asked Questions

I'm a student. What's my role in the application?

The primary goal of the AIHS Summer Studentship program is to encourage students to consider pursuing formal training and careers in health research, by providing hands-on summer research experiences. As such, the adjudication criteria for the Summer Studentship have been revised to give students a greater voice in their application. Students must write a project abstract appropriate for an audience of non-specialists, comment on how the proposed research contributes to their personal and professional skill development, and describe the relevance of their academic background and/or past experiences to the proposed research.

What's my supervisor's role in the application?

As in previous cycles, supervisors are responsible for the project proposal, and for demonstrating a relevant track record and sufficient operating funding to support the student's research. Please note that a greater emphasis has been placed this year on the relevance of publications to the proposed research, as opposed to the total number of publications. Supervisors are asked to choose 3-5 key publications within the past three years and describe their relevance to the proposed research. Supervisors must also address their plan for mentoring the student and how the proposed research will support the student's skill development.

Do I need to submit a transcript?

Yes. Transcripts will be provided to adjudicators and will be used by URI to verify enrollment status, GPA, coursework, and satisfactory academic standing. Students must address their academic preparedness in the relevant sections of the application form.

Please note that applicants with supervisors from the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, the Department of Surgery, and the Alberta Diabetes Institute will be asked to provide their consent to share their AIHS Summer Studentship applications (including transcripts) for the purposes of adjudicating alternative pools of funding. In the event that your AIHS Summer Studentship application is not successful, your application packages and transcripts will automatically be forwarded to these organizations (as applicable) for consideration for other awards.

Do I need to submit a reference letter?

No. Students directly address their fit for the proposed research (motivation with respect to skill development, fit with future career goals, and relevance of academic background or previous experience to the proposed research) in their application.

What resources are available to help me with my application?

The URI offers information sessions and individual consultations to support AIHS applicants. Please contact the URI office to schedule an appointment. A detailed AIHS Summer Studentship Program Guide (including the adjudication rubric) also available on the URI website. **Applicants are encouraged to consult the revised rubric as the adjudication criteria have changed for the 2017 cycle.**