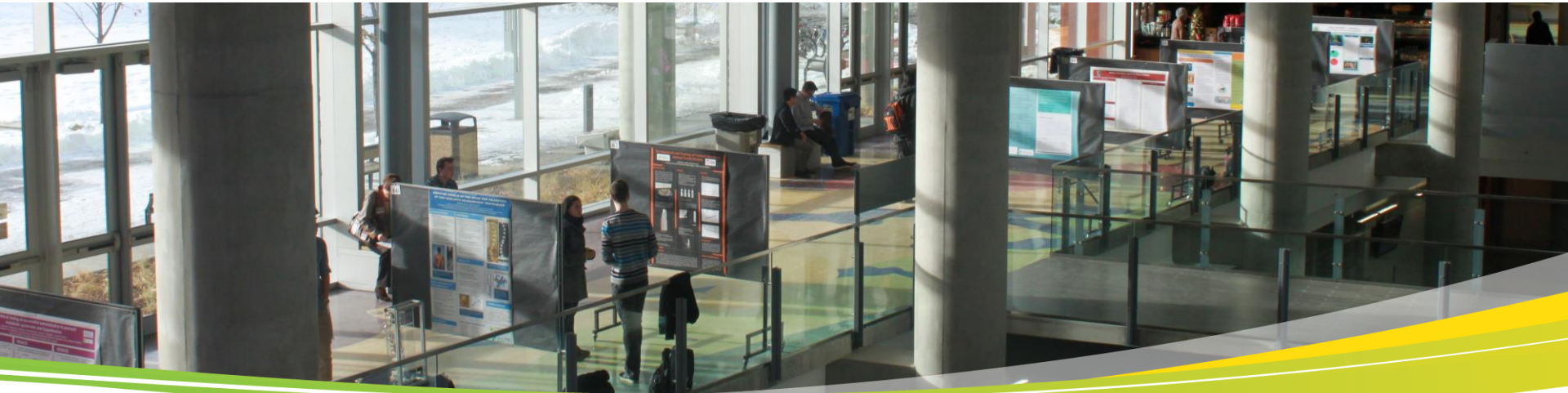




Undergraduate  
Research  
INITIATIVE

# How to apply for undergraduate research funding

Campus Saint-Jean – January 19, 2017



*“uplifting the whole people”*

— HENRY MARSHALL TORY, FOUNDING PRESIDENT, 1908



Undergraduate  
Research  
INITIATIVE

## Today's session:

- General tips for applying for funding, where to find funding opportunities
- Detailed information about URI Stipend & AIHS Summer Studentship programs (administered by URI)



## Why apply for funding? (aside from the obvious...)

- Good professional development opportunity (learn how to write a proposal)
- Get recognition for your research experience
- Gain access to research opportunities – many professors do not otherwise have funds allocated for undergrad projects



## Where to find funding

- URI Website (listings of funding opportunities)
- Your supervisor
- Professional associations and funding agencies specific to your discipline
- Advocacy groups supporting targeted research in a specific area



Undergraduate  
Research  
INITIATIVE

# Where to find funding

<http://www.uri.ualberta.ca/ApplyForFunding.aspx>



[My UAlberta](#) | [Find a Person](#) | [ONECard](#) | [Bear Track](#)

## Undergraduate Research Initiative

Contact Us

What is undergraduate research?

Find a research opportunity

Apply For Funding

Make the most of your research experience

Share your research

For Mentors and Instructors

Frequently Asked Questions

Invest in high impact experiences

Sign Up

for our  
e-Newsletter



## Invest in High Impact

Help support high-impact research by making a donation to the Undergraduate Research Initiative.

The Undergraduate Research Initiative (URI) launched at the University of Alberta in 2011 with a bold vision: to create a culture in which every undergraduate student has opportunities to engage in research and creative activities, both in and out of the classroom. Why? Because we believe that undergraduate students deserve the very best that a research-intensive institution has to offer: high-impact, hands-on experiences at the cutting edge of human knowledge -- the opportunity to put your ideas and your curiosity to work.



## How to apply for funding – the basics

- Most programs will require you to **have a supervisor** before you apply
- **Check eligibility requirements** for yourself and your supervisor
- Check with your department for **internal application process/deadlines**



## Writing the proposal

- Explain the research in **language appropriate for judges** who may not be experts in your specific research area.
- Have a **clear** research question/hypothesis
- Be sure to explain the anticipated outcomes of the research and why they are important.
- Explain what your project contributes to the larger project or context.



Undergraduate  
Research  
INITIATIVE

## Get feedback on your proposal

- If possible, have someone from outside of your discipline read your proposal. Do they understand the key points?
- Get technical feedback from your supervisor or someone else familiar with the project.





## Funding programs administered by URi

### Stipend support\*

- URI Stipend
  - Sustainability
  - SSHRC
- AIHS Summer Studentship

### Direct costs

- URI Support Fund

### For Stipend support:

- Students are paid directly from URi
- Supervisors may provide top-ups
- No other major awards may be held concurrently



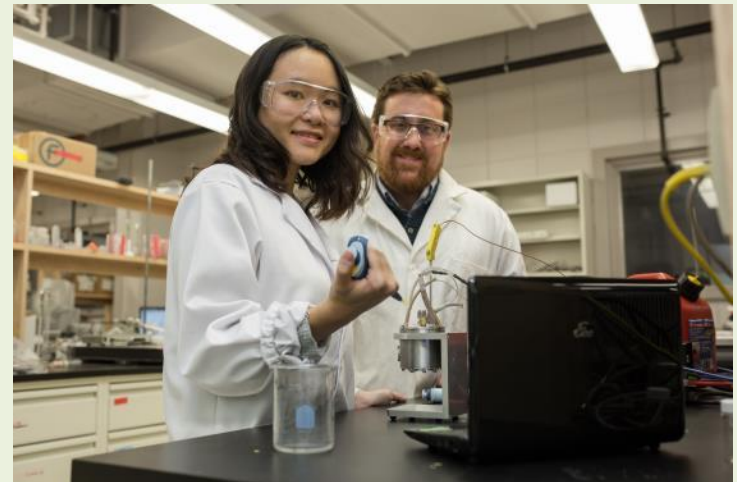
## URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend

- \$5000 Stipend to support an individual student in a mentored, interdisciplinary research project
- Projects can be 4-12 months in duration
- Open to students in any year and any discipline
- Two application deadlines each year:
  - Late October – for projects beginning in January
  - Late Feb/Early March – for projects beginning in May or September
- **Next deadline: March 1, 2017**



## URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend Supervisor eligibility

- Supervisor may be U of A faculty, staff, graduate student, or external\*
- \*If the primary supervisor is NOT a U of A faculty member, a U of A faculty member sponsor is required.
- Supervisors may only apply with TWO students in each cycle





# URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend

## Student eligibility



- Must be enrolled (full-time or part-time) as U of A undergraduate student at the time of application
- Must have satisfactory academic standing
- May not receive the URI Stipend and academic credit for the same project
- May not have held the URI Stipend previously



## URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend Adjudication criteria

- **Student skill development (x2)**
- **Quality of the proposal (x2)**
- Merit of the project

STUDENT

- **Interdisciplinary aspects of the project (x2)**

STUDENT +  
SUPERVISOR

- Supervisor commitment
- Financial need

SUPERVISOR



## URI Undergraduate Researcher Stipend Application tips

- Proposal must be written by the student, with feedback/support from the supervisor
- Application **MUST** be accessible to adjudicators from a variety of disciplines
- Students are encouraged to visit URI for feedback on their applications
- Research question & role of student must be clearly defined
- Supervisor section must be tailored for each student – do not copy and paste for multiple students



## Targeted funding available through URI Stipend

Targeted funding is available through URI Stipend for:

- **Projects related to campus sustainability**
  - Complete statement on how the project relates to campus sustainability
- **Projects supervised by current SSHRC holders**
  - Supervisors indicate project title, PI, and term of the SSHRC award

Proposals must also meet URI eligibility & adjudication criteria.



# Alberta Innovates Health Solutions Summer Studentship

- \$1500/month stipend for 2-4 months of health sciences/medical research during the summer months (May-August)
- As of January 2016, administered at the U of A by URI
- **Next deadline: February 6, 2017**







## AIHS Summer Studentship Supervisor eligibility

- Supervisor must have a primary faculty appointment at the U of A
- Supervisors may only apply with TWO students in each cycle
- Supervisors must demonstrate a record of relevant research publications & sufficient operating funding to support the student's research.



## AIHS Summer Studentship Student eligibility

- Applicants must be enrolled in:
  - an undergraduate or MD program
  - Grade 12 of high school
- Must be able to work at least 8 consecutive weeks between May-August
- May be enrolled at another post-secondary institution and wishing to undertake research at the U of A.
- May not receive the AIHS Summer Studentship and academic credit for the same project



## AIHS Summer Studentship Adjudication criteria

- Merit of the project

SUPERVISOR

- Supervisor

- publications, funding, mentorship

- Quality of Proposal

SUPERVISOR (proposal) +  
STUDENT (abstract)

- **Student (x2)**

- Anticipated professional development (STUDENT)
- Relevance of student's background/academic preparedness (STUDENT)
- Student's role & skill development (SUPERVISOR)



# AIHS Summer Studentship

## Key changes

### Students:

- Greater emphasis on student skill development and professional goals. How does this experience build on what the student has done before, or provide a new opportunity?

### Supervisors:

- Comprehensive publication list from last 3 years is not required. Please select 3-5 publications most relevant to the proposal and describe their relevance to the proposal.
- Funding: identify the operating grant that will directly support the student's research.



## **Consent to share AIHS application packages**

- Supervisors from Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry
- Supervisors from Department of Surgery
- Supervisors who are members of the Alberta Diabetes Institute

**Please provide consent in the application form to share your AIHS application package (including student transcripts) for further adjudication of awards administered by these units.**



## Award decision timelines & next steps

- URI Stipend & AIHS Summer Studentship results will be available in early April. (latest notifications will be mid-April)
- Students are welcome and encouraged to request feedback on their applications.
- URI administers award payments directly.
- URI does a mid-project check-in with students & supervisors
- Final reports are due within 10 days of the project end date



## Program details available at:

- Detailed program guides & tip sheets
- Deadlines
- Info sessions for applicants
- Final report forms
- Application forms
  - Google form
  - Word template for offline use

<http://www.uri.ualberta.ca/ApplyForFunding.aspx>



My UAlberta | Find a Person | ONECard | Bear Track:

### Undergraduate Research Initiative

Contact Us

What is undergraduate research?

Find a research opportunity

**Apply For Funding**

Make the most of your research experience

Share your research

For Mentors and Instructors

Frequently Asked Questions

Invest in high impact experiences

Sign Up for our e-Newsletter



### Invest in High Impact

Help support high-impact research by making a donation to the Undergraduate Research Initiative.

The Undergraduate Research Initiative (URI) launched at the University of Alberta in 2011 with a bold vision: to create a culture in which every undergraduate student has opportunities to engage in research and creative activities, both in and out of the classroom. Why? Because we believe that undergraduate students deserve the very best that a research-intensive institution has to offer: high-impact, hands-on experiences at the cutting edge of human knowledge -- the opportunity to put your ideas and your curiosity to work.



## Questions?

[www.uri.ualberta.ca](http://www.uri.ualberta.ca)

[uri@ualberta.ca](mailto:uri@ualberta.ca)

780-492-3474

- Crystal Snyder, Undergraduate Research Coordinator  
([cs2@ualberta.ca](mailto:cs2@ualberta.ca); 780-492-4183)
- Navita Kalra, URI Funding Advisor  
([nkalra@ualberta.ca](mailto:nkalra@ualberta.ca); 780-248-1933)