2019 NSERC USRA Summer Studentship Program Guidelines

The Office of Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement (ORSCE) is now accepting applications for the NSERC USRA Summer 2019 program (May-August). The NSERC USRA is designed to stimulate undergraduate interest in research in the natural sciences and engineering. Students receive an award of $5625 (min) to complete 16 weeks of full time work on a research project.

The ORSCE will provide the minimum institutional commitment portion of the award ($1125 maximum) for each successful MRU applicant.

Application Deadline: March 22, 2019 (application must be submitted, with transcripts, through the NSERC portal)

Please contact the Office of Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement (ORSCE) for all inquiries related to the program. Please do not apply to NSERC directly.

How to apply

1. Faculty member or student identify each other and a project that they wish to undertake.
2. Student and faculty supervisor complete and submit Form 202 parts 1 and 2 by the deadline – midnight March 22, 2019.
3. If the potential supervisor does not currently hold a major NSERC grant, s/he will need to be approved by NSERC as a supervisor. To obtain this exception approval the supervisor must submit the following to the ORSCE by the application deadline:
   a. a brief c.v. of the proposed supervisor, his/her research interests and a brief history of applying for/receiving NSERC support;
   b. a description of the lab environment, including equipment, other team members in the lab, access to NSERC grant holders, etc.; and
   c. a brief description of the student’s proposed research project.
4. Applications are adjudicated, sources of funding confirmed, and potential supervisors are notified.
5. Packages will be submitted to NSERC for approval.
6. Once supervisors have been approved, award recipients will be notified and USRAs awarded.
7. Details on this program and how to apply can be found here: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/StudentsEtudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC_eng.asp

Things to remember

• Student applicant will require registrar-issued transcripts (non-official but issued by registrar is acceptable) from all undergraduate institutions attended – order these early.
• The ORSCE will provide the minimum institutional commitment portion of the award ($1125 maximum) for each successful applicant. Supervisors are free to top up the institutional commitment portion of the award from an existing grant or from other sources. This top up must be secured before the USRA is awarded.
• Any supervisor who does not hold an active major NSERC award will have to be approved as a supervisor before the USRA will be awarded. The exception request documentation must be submitted to mdeane1@mtroyal.ca by midnight February 28, 2019.

Still have questions? Please contact mdeane1@mtroyal.ca for further assistance.