

Pharmacology Summer Research Award

The Pharmacology Summer Research Award (PSRA) provides financial support for a highly qualified undergraduate student motivated to pursue a research career in Pharmacology. It is intended to provide a meaningful research experience for the student, to enhance the research capacity of the Department of Pharmacology and to encourage the pursuit of graduate studies within our department.

Student Eligibility

- Full-time enrollment in an undergraduate degree program (2nd or 3rd year of program)
- Availability to pursue a consecutive 16-week research project (May-August) under the supervision of a faculty member in the Department of Pharmacology
- No other summer studentship or award (internal or external) can be held during the tenure of the PSRA
- Students enrolled in professional degree programs (e.g. Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy) are not eligible
- Students that have been accepted into a graduate program prior to the application deadline are not eligible to apply
- Normally a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 is required

Supervisor Eligibility

- Primary, joint or cross-appointment with the Department of Pharmacology
- Graduate student supervision privileges within the Department of Pharmacology
- Ability to provide matching funds for the award (see below)
- Maximum of 2 applications per supervisor will be considered for each competition
- The letter of support from the supervisor should provide a clear description about how the student builds research capacity (e.g. potential to pursue graduate studies, collection of pilot data) and justify the financial need for this recruitment
- The supervisor may support the applications of a maximum of two students provisionally ranked by the supervisor

Value

- Minimum \$8,000 total
- \$6,000 (PSRA) + \$2,000 (minimum Supervisor contribution)

Application Deadline

- March 15

Application Requirements

- Student CV (maximum 2 pages)
- Student cover letter (maximum 1 page). This letter should indicate why the student is interested in performing a summer research project with the proposed supervisor and how the PSRA will assist in achieving the student's career goals

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- Student transcripts (Dalhousie Banner printouts are acceptable)
- Research proposal (maximum 1 page)
- Letter of support from the supervisor (maximum 1 page)
- Application and reference letter should be submitted to Lori.Lawson@dal.ca
- Incomplete and/or late applications will not be considered

Review Criteria

- Student CV - 20%
- Student Cover Letter - 20%
- Student transcripts - 20%
- Quality of the research proposal - 10%
- Letter of support from the supervisor - 20%
- Financial need (addressed in the supervisor's letter) - 10%

Review Process

- Applications will be reviewed and ranked by the Department of Pharmacology Awards Committee with a final decision by the Department Head. If an applicant of sufficient quality is not identified the PSRA will not be conferred.
- Successful applicant will be notified of Award after USRA and other awards are confirmed

Student Responsibilities

- Perform 16 consecutive weeks of full-time research (~35 h/week)
- The award will be paid in monthly installments. If the student is unable to complete the full term, unpaid portion of the PSRA and supervisor stipend will be revoked
- Attend Pharmacology Seminars, Research Days, Thesis defenses and other Departmental Research events occurring May – August
- Preparation of a concise (maximum 5 pages) research report describing the rationale, methods, major findings and conclusions for the project; to be submitted to the supervisor and Head of the Department of Pharmacology by the third Friday of August