

FASS Undergraduate Research Awards:

Faculty members can apply for one of ten grants to hire an undergraduate student as a research assistant for a total of 60 hours – typically, 5 hours a week x 12 weeks, paid at \$15.00 per hour, over the winter or summer terms following the award. Adjudication of the applications will **prioritize those proposals that promise to provide the most valuable learning experiences for the student RA**. The primary purpose of this program is to nurture students' interest in research and to develop their potential as researchers.

Eligibility: All research-active FASS faculty appointed to 50% or greater appointments, including both DFA members and Dal/King's joint faculty. Although the preference would be to distribute these awards widely, the focus on student learning means that an individual faculty member can hold more than one award per year and over the three year term of the Academic Innovation grant. Student RAs must be currently enrolled Dal/King's FASS students throughout the term of their employment and cannot have previously had a grant through this fund.

Deadline: 1 Nov. 2019, with notices to be issued by late November. Email a pdf of all requested materials to paulette.chiasson@dal.ca. Applications will be evaluated by a committee consisting of the Associate Dean Academic, Associate Dean Research, and a member of ADC.

Adjudication criteria: 1) Clarity and significance of the expected learning outcomes for the student RA and the probability that those outcomes will be met; 2) Evidence that the faculty applicant is (a) research active and (b) has experience mentoring students, whether as paid RAs or as honours or graduate students, 3) Originality and/or significance of the project's contribution to knowledge.

Successful faculty applicants will be expected to post the RA job notice on MyCareer and have an open search amongst all eligible undergraduate students. The funds will be managed by the faculty member's home department.

Funded students will be asked to provide a two page summary of the work they've done, reflecting upon what they've learned in the process, within ten days of the contract's completion. The faculty mentors are asked to forward these summaries to the Associate Dean Academic.

Applicant: _____

Banner no: _____

Department: _____

Email address: _____

Project title: _____

Is this work subject to ethics approval, and if so, is such approval in hand? If not, what are your plans for securing ethics approval?

Attach a brief description of the project and the specific tasks to be done by the RA, clearly identifying the skills or competencies to be honed in the work (c. 500 words).¹

Attach a draft of the RA job ad and a contract that specifies the hours to be worked, the tasks to be done, and any provisions respecting intellectual property.

Attach a one-page summary c.v. of the faculty applicant, listing recent publications and research grants.

Research accountability statement (adapted from the Research Services statement of Nov 2016):

By signing this form, I acknowledge and accept my responsibility to do the following, to the best of my knowledge and ability:

1. undertake the project in accordance with ethical, medical, and scientific standards
2. comply with University policies, regulations, and procedures as applicable to the project, including but not limited to Scholarly Misconduct Policy, Policy on Conflict of Interest, Policy on the Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans, Environmental Health and Safety Orientation Policy, Prohibited Discrimination Policy, Accommodation Policy, Personal Harassment Policy, and Sexual Harassment Policy. See https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies.html#
3. comply with all applicable policies and procedures of Dalhousie Payroll and Information Services and be responsible for the following:
 - a) setting the terms and conditions of employment for all persons hired to work on the Project, including benefits and remuneration;
 - b) directing and supervising the student employee
4. inform the RA of the terms and conditions of any other grants used to fund the project and, where appropriate, have them acknowledge in writing any conditions with respect to publications, confidentiality, and intellectual property.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

¹ While focused on graduate students, SSHRC's guidelines for effective research training might be of use in defining the tasks to be done by the RA and their benefit to the student:

http://www.sshrc-crsh.gc.ca/funding-financement/policies-politiques/effective_research_training-formation_en_recherche_efficace-eng.aspx

The Researcher Skill Development Framework produced by the University of Adelaide can also be useful in designing and describing work to be done by student RAs and the related learning outcomes:

<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/rsd/framework/rsd7/>