



FACULTY OF HEALTH

## Faculty of Health Undergraduate Summer Research Awards (USRA)

APPLICATION FORM for **SUMMER 2025**  
NSERC & FH USRA and ILA SSRS

**Completed application and transcripts submitted to [fohr@dal.ca](mailto:fohr@dal.ca) by Feb 3, 2025**

The Faculty of Health annually provides internally funded USRAs to enable students to experience research within the Faculty. One USRA is funded through NSERC and is therefore awarded to NSERC-related research,<sup>1</sup> while the remainder are open to any area of research. When such students apply, at least two USRAs will be awarded to applicants from under-represented groups<sup>2</sup>. The Faculty of Health partners with Imhotep's Legacy Academy (ILA) to offer an additional summer student research scholarship (SSRS) for applicants identifying as people of African descent.<sup>3</sup> Interested applicants' files will be forwarded by the Faculty of Health to ILA for consideration. All awards (USRAs & SSRS) are valued at **\$9,400**. Questions about this application form or competition may be directed to [fohr@dal.ca](mailto:fohr@dal.ca).

USRA application materials are reviewed by a panel comprising of faculty from the Faculty of Health who consider past academic performance, research experience and research potential in determining successful applicants. SSRS application materials are reviewed by the ILA's Board of Directors, the Faculty of Health Associate Dean – Research, and the African Nova Scotian Health Sciences Initiative Committee.

### **Eligibility** ([click here](#) for detailed NSERC USRA eligibility)

- You are a student enrolled in a Faculty of Health undergraduate program working with a supervisor in the Faculty of Health
- You are a student enrolled in an undergraduate program in another Faculty at Dalhousie working with a supervisor in the Faculty of Health
- You are a student enrolled in a Faculty of Health undergraduate program working with a supervisor in another Faculty at Dalhousie
- Available to work fulltime for 16 weeks (May-August)<sup>4</sup>
- You are not currently receiving another summer research award (USRAs cannot be stacked with other awards)
- International students are encouraged to apply for a summer research award. While not eligible for NSERC USRAs, they are considered for all other USRAs
- For NSERC USRAs, you have not previously held the award 3 times in your undergraduate degree
- Have completed all the course requirements of at least the first year of study (or two academic terms) and have not earned any research-based graduate degrees (e.g., Masters or PhD)

NOTE: Applications where the research is based in the Faculty of Health will be prioritized. While awarded to a student, supervisors are capped at 2 FH USRAs per year.

<sup>1</sup> See [https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Index\\_eng.asp](https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Index_eng.asp)

<sup>2</sup> As defined by Dalhousie's employment equity policy at [https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres/equity---inclusion/employment\\_equity/eepolicy.html](https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres/equity---inclusion/employment_equity/eepolicy.html)

<sup>3</sup> See <https://www.imhotep.ca/en/programs/summer-research-internships/> for program details

<sup>4</sup> Exceptions or alternate timing of the work period may be accommodated by the supervisor for students who must fulfill placements as a requirement of their degree program; please discuss this with your proposed supervisor in advance and indicate in the appropriate space in the application below

## Application

### Part 1 – to be completed by the student

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Banner Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Hours completed (as of May 2025): \_\_\_\_\_

How many academic terms will you have completed towards your degree program when this award is held?

Indicate your current enrolment status:      Part-time                      Full-time

School/College/Program: \_\_\_\_\_

If other Faculty, indicate Faculty and Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you in a professional undergraduate degree program?      Yes              No

Are you a Canadian citizen or permanent resident?      Yes              No

Do you intend to graduate in May 2025?      Yes              No              If yes, complete Appendix A

### Check if you identify as:

Indigenous                      African NS/Canadian                      Person of African heritage

Woman                      Person with a disability

Person belonging to a sexual orientation and/or gender identity (SOGI) minority groups

*Select this box if you wish to be considered for the Faculty of Health/ILA SSRS\**

*\*Person of African heritage must be selected above*

**Part 2 – to be completed by the student**

- In addition to the information below, academic transcripts from all universities attended are required. Downloads, screenshots, or other images from your Dalhousie student account and/or of transcripts from other university systems are acceptable. A downloadable PDF of your unofficial transcript is available in Dal Online free of charge. You can access this under Web for Student > Student Records > Academic Records.
- Full year courses for which no fall grade is available will not be included in the GPA calculation.

Academic background (excluding current/ongoing degree):

| Degree | Institution | Department | Month and year started | Month and year awarded/expected |
|--------|-------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
|        |             |            |                        |                                 |
|        |             |            |                        |                                 |
|        |             |            |                        |                                 |

Scholarships and other awards offered/held:

| Name of Award | Value (if any) | Type (research, academic, leadership etc.) | Level (institutional, provincial, national) | Period Held (yyyy/mm-yyyy/mm) |
|---------------|----------------|--|---|-------------------------------|
|               |                |  |   |                               |
|               |                |  |   |                               |
|               |                |  |   |                               |
|               |                |  |   |                               |

In the space below, summarize relevant past academic and research experience (e.g., position held and nature of work, organization/department, supervisor), including any contributions to research products (e.g., knowledge translation activities, abstracts, publications, presentations) and research skills gained. (600 characters)

In the space below, summarize your interest in research and future plans as they relate to research (e.g., directed/independent studies, honours, graduate school etc.) (600 characters)

If you are requesting alternate timing for the work period, please note that here and provide a brief explanation for the need of the request (e.g., clinical placement, training course, etc.) and the arrangement discussed with the supervisor. (300 characters)

Describe any special considerations that have had an effect on your performance or productivity, including health problems, family responsibilities, disabilities, or other circumstances. These circumstances will be taken into consideration when your application is evaluated. (300 characters)

### Part 3 – to be completed by the supervisor

Please complete the following if you are willing to have the above student work under your supervision this summer should they receive a USRA or ILA SSRS. The minimum required supervisor contribution towards NSERC USRAs and FH USRAs for Summer 2025 is \$3,400 (in response to current NS minimum wage standards). There is no required supervisor contribution for the ILA SSRS, however, a top-up is strongly encouraged.

Name:

Email:

Faculty of Health School/College/Program:

If other Faculty, Faculty/Department:

Funding Source (project funding [if required] and supervisor contribution)

NSERC

CIHR

SSHRC

Other research funding (name the agency/grant):

Proposed Summer Project (to be completed by Supervisor)<sup>5</sup>

Faculty of Health Research Focus Area (check all that apply)

Health equity and resilience

Health and health systems transformation

Body function and mobility across the health continuum

Title:

Project Description (600 characters):

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<sup>5</sup> Note – project description is not considered in the adjudication process; it is used to determine suitability for the NSERC-specific award that is available; FH research focus areas are included for evaluation of the Faculty's Strategic Plan

## **Appendix A**

Complete this page ONLY if you plan to graduate this May

### **Part A1 - to be completed by the student**

Graduating students are eligible to compete for USRAs if they intend to begin a thesis-based graduate program the subsequent fall. For the ILA SSRS, students are eligible to hold the scholarship during the summer immediately after graduation, regardless of future plans.

Name:

Describe your plans for graduate school next year. You do not have to be accepted into a graduate program at the time of this application, but you should have applied.

Institution/Department/Program:

Application Status:

Please add any additional information related to your plans for graduate school (250 characters):