



FACULTY OF HEALTH

Faculty of Health Undergraduate Summer Research Awards (USRA)

APPLICATION FORM for **SUMMER 2026**
NSERC & FH USRA and ILA SSRS

Deadline: Feb 2, 2026 (see instructions below)

Questions about this application form or competition may be directed to fohr@dal.ca

The Faculty of Health annually provides internally-funded (“FH”) USRAs to enable students to experience research within the Faculty. When such students apply, at least two FH USRAs will be awarded to applicants from under-represented groups.¹ FH USRAs are open to any area of research and to students from all backgrounds (domestic, permanent resident, and international). One additional USRA funded through [NSERC](#), with specific [eligibility requirements](#), is also available through this competition. 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.² Interested applicants’ files will be forwarded by the Faculty of Health to ILA for consideration. All award types (FH USRAs, NSERC USRA, ILA-SSRS) are valued at \$10,349 (inclusive of benefits, where applicable).

For FH USRAs, priority will be given to: students who have not previously held an FH USRA, and applications where research will be based in the Faculty of Health. No more than two (2) FH USRAs will be awarded to the same supervisor (or same project, for co-supervision arrangements).

USRA application materials are reviewed by a panel comprised 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.

Student 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
- Have completed all the course requirements of at least the first year of study (or two academic terms) and have not previously earned any research-based graduate degrees (e.g., Master’s or PhD)
- Available to work fulltime for 16 weeks (May-August)
 - 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
- You are not currently receiving another summer research award (USRAs cannot be stacked with other awards)
- For NSERC USRAs only, you have not previously held an NSERC USRA award 3 times in your undergraduate degree

¹ As defined by Dalhousie’s employment equity policy at https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres/equity---inclusion/employment_equity/eepolicy.html

² See <https://www.imhotep.ca/en/programs/summer-research-internships/> for program details

Submission Instructions

1. The completed application form and transcripts should be combined as a single PDF file
2. Confirm that your PDF file is not locked/protected
3. Name your file as follows: FH-USRA-2026_lastname-firstname.pdf
4. Submit application to fohr@dal.ca using the subject line "FH USRA 2026 (lastname, firstname)"

Application deadline: February 2, 2026

Application

Part 1 – to be completed by the student

Name: Banner Number:

Email: Phone:

Credit Hours completed (as of May 2026):

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

Program & School/College:

If not in Faculty of Health, 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 2026? 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 also be selected above to be eligible*

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 from other universities' equivalent online 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)

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, including spaces)

Part 2 – to be completed by the student (continued)

Summarize your interest in research and future plans as they relate to research (e.g., directed/independent studies, honours, graduate school etc.) (1,000 characters, including spaces)

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. (1,000 characters, including spaces)

Describe any special circumstances that have had an effect on your performance or productivity to date (e.g., gender, race, diversity, ability, sexuality, socio-economic or health disparities, educational access, illness, care responsibilities, cultural/community responsibilities etc.). These circumstances will be taken into consideration when your application is evaluated. (1,000 characters, including spaces)

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 an FH USRA, NSERC USRA, or ILA SSRS. The minimum required supervisor contribution towards NSERC USRAs and FH USRAs for Summer 2026 is \$4,349 (dictated by NS minimum wage standards). There is no required supervisor contribution for the ILA SSRS, however, a top-up is strongly encouraged.

Supervisors may participate on a maximum of two student applications; additional applications are permitted (no limit) only if those additional student applicants are being considered for the ILA-SSRS. For FH USRAs exclusively, supervisors must be in a tenure-stream appointment.

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):

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

Project Title:

Project Description³ (1,000 characters, including spaces):

³ 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 - to be completed by the student

Complete this page ONLY if you plan to graduate this coming May.

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.

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 (600 characters, including spaces):