

NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRAs)

Applications should be submitted to the School of Computer Science Graduate Secretary no later than February 3, 2012

Instructions on how to apply are on the next page

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Applications are invited from eligible undergraduate students for the **2012-13 NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA)** program. Information is available from NSERC's [website](#).

Students must be supervised by a faculty member holding an active NSERC research grant at the time the student holds the award.

Awards may be held in one of the following terms: **Summer term 2012, Fall term 2012, or Winter term 2013.**

- NSERC has advised that the quota of USRAs for 2012-13 at the University of Windsor is **28**.
- The value of the scholarship for 2012-2013 is \$4500.00 for 16 weeks, with a travel allowance where necessary.
- NSERC requires that all students holding USRAs receive supplementary assistance from University sources of at least 25% of the value of the award, that is, of at least \$1,125.00. This mandatory supplement is a minimum value; any supplement above this level may be set at the University's discretion. Research supervisors or programs should therefore indicate clearly what they are prepared to contribute.

NSERC closely monitors the participation of women in the program and strongly suggests the universities use the USRA program as a tool to encourage more women to pursue careers in science and engineering. NSERC expects that universities will endeavour to ensure a minimum 50% participation rate by female students. Note that Windsor's female participation rate for Summer 2011 was 31.3%.

NSERC would also like to encourage Aboriginal undergraduate students to pursue graduate studies and research careers in the natural sciences and engineering. Each university is strongly encouraged to promote the availability of USRAs to qualified Aboriginal students. Awards that the University of Windsor makes to Aboriginal students will be in addition to our quota of awards (please identify these applications when they are submitted to our office).

A student applying for an award **must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident**, and be registered in a bachelor's degree program at an eligible university. Students must have obtained a **cumulative GPA of at least 8.0 or B- up to the time of application**. Students may not hold more than three USRAs in their academic career or more than one award in any fiscal year (April 1 to March 31).

The deadline to submit ranked applications to the Office of Graduate Studies for students wishing to hold an award in either Summer term 2012, Fall term 2012 or Winter term 2013 is February 10, 2012.

All applications must now be completed and verified on-line. A paper copy is then be printed off and submitted to the department, along with transcripts.

Instructions:

Students should talk to different professors to find one whose research you are interested in, and who has an NSERC discovery grant, and who is willing to supervise you and provide the \$1,250 which is added to the NSERC grant. Note that you need the NSERC PIN number of the professor who has agreed to supervise your research, in order to complete the form.

1. Form 202 Part I (Student Application for a USRA)

Students log onto the NSERC on-line system to **complete and verify** the application (Form 202 Part I). Students need to create an account and then login before they can complete the form electronically.

Detailed instructions are available from : http://www.nserc.gc.ca/forms/formtable_e.htm.

If you have not used the system before, you need to register (link on the right about half a page down). After registering, click on the red "On-line System Login." Button. Then choose the USRA Form 1, and complete the form.

See Dr. Frost if you have a problem.

A new step for students is that they must scan and attach (upload) a copy of their own **official**, up-to-date transcripts to the application in Portable Document Format (PDF) as described in the on-line instructions.

The student will not be able to complete the verification of their application until this has been done.

STUDENTS CAN IGNORE THE FOLLOWING

2. Form 202 Part II (Supervisor Application)

Supervisors must register or log onto the NSERC on-line system to complete Part II of Form 202 . Before Part II can be created, the supervisor must obtain the reference number and surname of each student with whom they wish to work. A Part II must be created for each student, then **verified** before it can be **submitted** electronically

3. A paper copy of the application (including Part I and II and transcripts) is printed off and submitted to the department.

4. Departments rank the applications and forward them to our office by the deadline of February 10, 2012.

5. Please clearly indicate for which term the application is to be considered (Summer 2012, Fall 2012, or Winter 2013)