

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROGRAM
Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto

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Call for projects for the Summer Research Program 2019

The Faculty of Dentistry has opportunities for summer students to gain experience in laboratory and clinical research. The quality of work that the students have been producing in the past has been of very high calibre and several students are presenting their award-winning projects at top international meetings every year. I invite you to consider taking on a student next summer.

Your next steps:

- **Now:**
Identify a research project in your lab that is suitable for an undergraduate student.
- **By January 25, 2019**
Summarize your project on 1/2 page (~350 words) and submit to the Summer Research Program, using the form: "2019_Project_Application_PIs.docx", available for download under:
<https://www.dentistry.utoronto.ca/research/summer-research-program>. Details are found in the form.

Your benefit:

- A motivated student with good academic marks, often with previous research experience.
- (Wo)Man power for your research, leading to a possible abstract or other publication.
- The possibility to train and "test" a student for a possible subsequent Master Project.
- Funds from the Faculty of Dentistry of \$2,400.-- to match your contribution.

Your contribution:

- For students funded by the Summer Research Program, we request a matching contribution from the supervisor between \$2,400.-- to \$3,000.--, depending on how long you have the student and whether the student has previously participated in our program (*for details see additional information below*).
- The PI contribution is to be paid to the program and not directly to the student.

Consider CIHR Undergraduate Funding:

- The CIHR Institute of Musculoskeletal Health and Arthritis typically has an open competition for Summer Studentship Awards with submission deadline **in mid-January** and an award of \$5,000 for four months. The time investment for you and the student (who will be the main applicant) to apply is not onerous, in particular if you have already established the project proposal for our program.
- Students who will be receiving CIHR support will not be eligible to obtaining additional funding through the Faculty's program.

Additional information:

Chances to get funding:

- Typically, 5-10 projects out of 20-30 submissions are funded per year.
- Preference will be given to projects in laboratories or clinics with an active research program. Existing or applied for external peer-review grant support is considered a positive factor.

Requirements:

- The project supervisor must have demonstrated expertise or access to expertise for executing the project. Each student is under the direct supervision of a faculty member.
- Supervisors are expected to contribute to the student's salary: \$800.--/month for first time students, \$1,000.--/month for students in the second or subsequent year of funding. This formula provides the supervisor with the option of working with experienced students while encouraging employment of first-time students without previous research experience in the Faculty. The PI contribution is to be paid to the program and not directly to the student.
- Please note that the Summer Research Program cannot provide support for students that already receive stipends from other funding agencies. If fellowships are awarded after application to the program, the program director has to be informed. Students can nevertheless follow the program's activities.

Timeline:

- January 25, 2019:** Submission deadline for PI's project descriptions.
- Mid-January 2019:** *CIHR Undergraduate Summer Studentship Award–Institute Community Support*
- February 1, 2019:** Students will have access to all projects submitted by the supervisors. Students are encouraged to contact potential supervisors before deadline to secure their lab spot.
- March 1, 2019:** Deadline for students to submit their application, using the form:
"2019_Fellowship_Application_Student.docx"
(<https://www.dentistry.utoronto.ca/research/summer-research-program> .)
- End of April 2019:** Funded projects will be announced.
- May-August 2019:** In this period, summer students are typically in the laboratory.
- August 23, 2019:** The results of all summer student projects **must** be presented and **must** be summarized in an IADR abstract format. Supervisors will have to make themselves available for the presentation date (or a qualified substitute). The presented research projects will be ranked and may receive additional travel support depending on availability of funds.
- February 2020:** Projects **must** be presented at the Faculty's Research Day in poster form.

Student profile:

- The Summer Research Program is open to undergraduate students of the Faculty of Dentistry at U of T, institutes associated with the Faculty, and other Dental Faculties in Canada. There will also be a limited number of spots for non-dental undergraduate students.
- All application documents submitted by the students (CV, academic transcripts, statement of research interest) are available upon request from Leah Raz.
- First or second year dental students will be appointed for three months. Third-year students can be appointed for two months. Students are not entitled to paid leave during this period.
- Students from this program will be eligible for Pynn Family award, CDA Dentsply and OKU Alumni awards, when available to the Faculty.

For information and submissions (e-mail only) please contact Leah Raz, l.raz@dentistry.utoronto.ca.