Ontario Tech University acknowledges the lands and people of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. We are thankful to be welcomed on these lands in friendship. The lands we are situated on are covered under the Williams Treaties and the traditional territory of the Mississaugas, a branch of the greater Anishinaabeg Nation, including Algonquin, Ojibway, Odawa and Pottawatomi. These lands remain home to a number of Indigenous nations and people.

We acknowledge this land out of respect for the Indigenous nations who have cared for Turtle Island, also called North America, from before the arrival of settler peoples until this day. Most importantly, we remember the history of these lands has been tainted by poor treatment and a lack of friendship with the First Nations who call them home.

This history is something we are all affected by as we are all treaty people in Canada. We all have a shared history to reflect on, and each of us is affected by this history in different ways. Our past defines our present, but if we move forward as friends and allies, then it does not have to define our future.
2022 Undergraduate Research Awards Information Session
Information Session Agenda

- Available Awards
- Eligibility Criteria
- How to Apply
- Selection Criteria
- Application Deadline
- Q&A
Available Awards

• There is one application process for all Undergraduate Research Awards.
• Applicants could be awarded one of two awards:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAR Award</th>
<th>NSERC USRA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Intended to stimulate student interest in research and encourage students to undertake graduate studies.</td>
<td>• Intended to stimulate interest in natural sciences and engineering research and encourage students to undertake graduate studies or pursue a research career in NSE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Seven STAR awards (1 per Faculty).</td>
<td>• Approximately 28 NSERC USRAs available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Open to undergraduate students registered at Ontario Tech, including international students.</td>
<td>• Open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Supports 12 or 16 weeks of research activity.</td>
<td>• Supports 12 or 16 weeks of research activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 12 weeks - $5,500 minimum</td>
<td>• 12 or 16 weeks - $8,400 minimum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• 16 weeks - $6,500 minimum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eligibility Criteria

**STAR Award**

To apply, students must meet the following requirements:

- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident of Canada or an international student.
- Be a registered Ontario Tech University student (at the time you apply) in a bachelor’s degree program.
- Have obtained, over the previous year of study, a cumulative average of at least a B- (70 percent, 2.7 grade points).
- Have completed at least one full year of university course work (two full academic semesters) by the start of the research project (May 2022).

**NSERC USRA**

To apply, students must meet the following requirements:

- Be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada as of the application deadline.
- Be registered (at the time you apply) in a bachelor’s degree program at an eligible university.
- Have obtained, over the previous years of study, a cumulative average of at least a B- (70 percent, 2.7 grade points).

*Go online for additional information:*

- How many NSERC USRAs you may hold
- Who is not eligible to apply

See details [here](#).
How to Apply

• Information on how to apply can be found online.

• There are four steps to the application process:
  • Step 1: Choose a research project(s)
  • Step 2: Update your PDF software
  • Step 3: Prepare your application (mandatory uploads - Statement of Interest; request for transcript form)
  • Step 4: Complete the 2022 Undergraduate wards Application Form

Undergraduate Research Awards

Undergraduate Research Award recipients will engage in 12 or 16 weeks of full-time research activity under the supervision of an Ontario Tech professor. They will gain research experience in an exciting academic setting while receiving financial support. If you’re looking to gain hands-on research experience in your field of study and work with leading professors on innovative research, Ontario Tech University offers a number of undergraduate research awards for summer project opportunities.

The Office of Research Services will be hosting two information sessions:

- Tuesday, January 4 at 11 a.m. to noon
- Thursday, January 6 at 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Both sessions will present the same content, so students do not need to attend both.

Applications are NOW OPEN for the 2022 Undergraduate Research Awards. Registration closes on Monday, January 17 at 3 p.m.
Step 1: Choose a Research Project(s)

• A list of Project Summaries will be posted in the ‘Student’ section of the URA website under 2022 Undergraduate Research Awards Project Summaries.

• You may apply to a maximum of two research projects. We strongly encourage students to choose two projects so they have a backup in case their first choice is awarded to another student. If successful, you will be assigned to contribute to one research project over the summer.

• Students may apply to research projects outside of their Faculty provided they hold the necessary qualifications outlined in the Project Summary.
Step 2: Update your PDF software

• Whether you are using a Mac or a PC, you will require the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader DC in order to complete the Statement of Interest.
• This software is freely available on the Adobe website.
Step 3: Prepare your application

1. Statement of Interest

2. Request for Official Transcript of Academic Record
Step 3: Prepare your application

Statement of Interest

Step 1: Download the Statement of Interest PDF. This form will be posted online.

Step 2: Fill out your personal information (first and last name, cumulative GPA).

Step 3: Write your Statement(s) of Interest.
- ~6,200 characters (1 page) maximum outlining:
  - Which research project(s) you are applying to and why.
  - How this research position would enhance your studies.
  - What skills and experience you can contribute to the project.
  - How this opportunity will assist you in meeting your academic and/or career goals.
Step 3: Prepare your application

Statement of Interest

Step 4: Save your completed Statement of Interest to your computer as:

- [LASTNAME]_2022_URA_Application_Statement of Interest.pdf.
- Saved as a PDF; less than 10 MB

Step 5: Obtain an endorsement signature(s).

- The Statement of Interest requires endorsement (an official e-signature) from the project supervisor(s), confirming that they are willing to supervise you as a URA recipient.
- Students should contact Project Supervisor(s) well in advance of the application deadline to set up a virtual appointment to discuss their Statement of Interest.
- If students are applying to two research projects, they must collect a signature from each Project Supervisor (one signature and then the other) on the same electronic form.
Step 3: Prepare your application

Request for Official Transcript form

• Ontario Tech students will not be charged for this transcript.
  - By filling out this form, you are giving the Office of Research Services permission to request your transcript on your behalf for the purposes of evaluating your application.

• Non-Ontario Tech students
  - Rather than complete the Request for Transcript form, you will upload an original transcript from your own academic institution.
  - Order your transcript from your home institution as soon as possible to avoid missing the application deadline.
  - Do not mail your transcript to the Office of Research Services. Staff are working remotely at this time.
Request for Official Transcript form

Step 1: Download and Print the request for official transcript of academic record form. You may also complete this online.

Step 2: Fill in the following sections of the form:
• Last name, First name, Student Number
• In the Request 1 section, write “Release to the Office of Research Services” beside the “Company/dept:” field.

Step 3: Sign and date.
• Signatures must be handwritten. Please use black or blue ink to sign this form.

Step 4: Scan and save:
• [LASTNAME]_2022_RequestForTranscript.pdf
• Saved as a PDF or Image: less than 10 MB
Step 4: Complete the 2022 Undergraduate Student Awards Application Form

About the e-form:

• Ten sections
  • Introduction;
  • Student information & eligibility profile;
  • A confidential and voluntary EDI self-identification survey;
  • A voluntary section for Indigenous students;
  • Undergraduate academic background;
  • Previous degrees;
  • Scholarships & other awards received;
  • Which 2022 URA research project(s) are you applying for?;
  • Mandatory uploads;
  • Program acknowledgements
**Step 4: Complete the 2022 Undergraduate Student Awards Application Form**

**About the e-form:**

- **Accessing the form**
  - To complete this form, Ontario Tech students must be signed in to their ontariotechu.net email.
  - Non-Ontario Tech students must email studentresearch@ontariotechu.ca for an accessible version of the form if they are unable to complete the online version.

- **Submitting the form**
  - When you submit the form, it will automatically:
    - Send a notification email to the 2022 URA Program Coordinator and to studentresearch@ontariotechu.ca.
    - Send a confirmation email to the student’s email inbox with a copy of their submission.

- **Editing your application**
  - Students cannot edit their application after it is submitted. To edit the application form prior to submitting, toggle between sections of the form using the ‘Back’ and ‘Next’ buttons.
  - Note: Refreshing your browser BEFORE submitting the application will result in lost information.
Step 1: Review the URA website.
• Information about the URA program and FAQs
• How to edit your application (before submission)
• How to know if your application was successfully submitted
• ‘Apply Now’ button to submit your application

Step 2: Complete the form including all mandatory uploads:
- [LASTNAME]_2022_URA_Application_Statement of Interest.pdf.
- [LASTNAME]_2022_RequestForTranscript.pdf

Step 3: Submit your application.
• Select the ‘Submit’ button.
Selection Criteria

- Applicants are reviewed based on:
  - High academic standing based on cumulative GPA from all previous years of study in your current degree program.
    - The minimum GPA required is 2.7.
  - Level of experience, skills and/or training relevant to the specific research project.
  - The details outlined in your Statement of Interest.

- Rankings will be made by a Rankings Committee based within each Faculty.
Application Deadline?

• All application forms must be submitted on or before **Monday, January 17 at 3 p.m.**
  - Be proactive with approaching potential Project Supervisors for their e-signature.
  - Application forms that do not have an endorsement signature(s) **WILL NOT** be accepted.
  - Hand written applications **WILL NOT** be accepted.

• All applicants will be notified of the results by email (usually March/April)
Thank you