



American Physiological Society Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship Application Information

The APS Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowships program seeks to excite and encourage first- through third-year undergraduate students to pursue a career as a basic research scientist.

These fellowships are to support full-time undergraduate students to work in the laboratory of an established investigator. Faculty sponsors/advisors must be active members of the APS in good standing. Undergraduate students who will be graduating in the spring of 2009 are not eligible to apply for these summer fellowships.

Selection of participants will be based upon academic merit, the perceived quality of the proposed experience and the availability of appropriate faculty mentors. Special consideration will be given to applicants whose socioeconomic background, access to educational opportunities, and other life experiences suggest that they would especially benefit from this type of program.

Applications will be accepted from multiple students in a specific laboratory. However, a laboratory will only be allowed to have one awardee per year.

Number of Awards: Up to 24 fellowships for the summer of 2009
Award Amount: \$4,000 stipend to the student for 10 weeks of support
\$300 unrestricted grant to the faculty sponsor/advisor
Up to \$1,300 travel grant to attend the following year's APS annual meeting (Experimental Biology 2010) or a 2010 APS fall Conference

Eligibility:
UG Year: 1st-year through 3rd-year undergraduate students enrolled full time
GPA: Students must have an over-all GPA of >3.0 to apply (0-4.0 scale)
Research host: APS member in good standing

Application Information: The following application information will assist students and research hosts in filling out the online application.

Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed. All applications will be reviewed, evaluated, and ranked by the APS Career Opportunities in Physiology Committee. All decisions are final.

For additional questions, please contact Melinda Lowy, APS Higher Education Programs Coordinator at mlowy@the-aps.org or 301-634-7787.

Online application deadline is February 2, 2009
Apply at <http://www.the-aps.org/awardapps>

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UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT PORTION OF APPLICATION

1. Go to <http://www.the-aps.org/awardapps>. Enter your email address and select a password to use
2. **Fill out your profile information** completely and click on the button at the bottom of the page to continue
3. **Select “Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowship”** from the list of awards on the drop-down menu
4. **Answer the questions on the form** (if there is additional information about the questions, there will be a blue question mark in a circle for you to click on)

Partial list of questions the Student Applicant will need to answer:

- A. Science/math GPA, in addition to overall GPA
- B. College awards/honors received
- C. Describe any previous or current research involvement with the research advisor
- D. Describe any work you have done in other research labs as an undergraduate
- E. Research Project title
- F. Research Project hypothesis
- G. Research Project description
- H. How does this project relate to your long-term career goals?

NOTE: YOU must write this portion and upload it. Do NOT ask your advisor to do so

5. Either **request transcripts to be sent to APS** (send to UGSRF, American Physiological Society, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-3991 -- we will upload) **OR make a pdf file of your transcripts and upload** them. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable. **If the transcript is not in English, please provide an English translation of courses, grades, and grading system.**
6. Write a **1-page letter** describing:
 - A. Your background, achievements, interests and short-term goals
 - B. Your long-term career goals
 - C. Comments on why you are applying for this Fellowship
 - D. A statement concerning your choice of this particular faculty advisor
7. Request **2 letters of recommendation** – one from the research advisor/host and the second from another faculty member. Enter their email addresses on the form under “Recommendation Letter-Confidential” to have the system request them to upload the letter. You will not be able to see the letters, but you will be able to go in later and see if they have uploaded a document.

Please provide this information to those writing the letters: To the extent possible, these letters should rank this student in comparison to other students at similar levels. Both letters should speak directly to the issue of this student's potential to pursue a career in physiology as a basic research scientist. The letter from the faculty sponsor/advisor should describe the basis or factors that resulted in his/her inviting this student to work in your laboratory. **Letters should also comment specifically on the student’s career aspirations and the stage of development of those aspirations.**

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RESEARCH ADVISOR/HOST PORTION OF APPLICATION

1. Please make sure the student has **your contact information** (including name, title, department, institution, email, and phone)
2. Make sure you are an **APS member in good standing** (have paid your dues through 12/2009)
3. Prepare a **single pdf document** with the following information included in it (please include the descriptions as headers). **NOTE:** You may either give it to the student to upload it OR have them enter your email address on the form so that you can upload it.

List of questions the Research Advisor/Host will need to answer in the document:

- A. APS Membership Number
 - B. Years at your current institution
 - C. Describe your general areas of expertise and research activity
 - D. List of four recent publications that are representative of your current work/interests (please list full citation)
 - E. Provide a general description of your research laboratory (i.e., facilities, personnel, number of other undergraduate/graduate students, collaboration of other faculty)
 - F. Describe the project or experiments in which the student will be involved. To the extent possible, please delineate what you anticipate will be the student's responsibilities and activities contributing to the completion of this project. (If the student has already begun work on this project, also describe the activities and progress to date.)
 - G. Describe how you personally plan to interact with the student.
NOTE: If you plan to be absent for any period of time longer than 1 week, please indicate when you will be gone and who will be supervising the student. **NOTE:** if there is no one to supervise the student while you are gone, then please do **NOT** have the student apply for the fellowship with you as the research host.
 - H. List the grant or resources that are available to support this work (indicate source and amount)
 - I. Do you anticipate that this project will be completed during the summer, or is it expected or required that the student will continue to work in your lab during the subsequent semester(s)?
 - J. One of the purposes of this program is to excite and encourage this student to pursue a career involving physiological research. Aside from the student actually doing research and assisting with the collection of experimental data, do you have any other activities planned over the summer that might enhance the professional development of this student?
 - K. Describe what prior experience have you had with undergraduate and pre-doctoral students.
4. Prepare a **pdf letter of recommendation** for the student. Please have your student enter your email address on the form under "Recommendation Letter-Confidential" to have the system request you to upload the letter.
NOTE: To the extent possible, this letter should rank this student in comparison to other students at similar levels. It should describe the basis or factors that resulted in his/her inviting this student to work in your laboratory. The letter should also comment specifically on the student's career aspirations and the stage of development of those aspirations.

Online application deadline: February 2, 2009



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APPLICATION INFORMATION CHECK LIST

- Fellowship Online Application Form** with all questions answered by student
- Student undergraduate transcript** either uploaded as pdf or a copy sent to APS for uploading (English translation required if in foreign language)
- Student 1-page Personal Statement** uploaded
- Research advisor's document** uploaded or email address entered so he/she can upload
- Statement that **IACUC or IRB approval** has been obtained for the proposed summer project (if applicable).
- Letter of recommendation from research advisor** requested and email address entered on online form
(Remember to go back in and double-check before the deadline to make sure a document was uploaded. If the document is not there, the system will re-email that person automatically when you click to update your application)
- Additional letter of recommendation** requested from another faculty member and email address entered on online form
(Remember to go back in and double-check before the deadline to make sure a document was uploaded. If the document is not there, the system will re-email that person automatically when you click to update your application)

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