Discover Grant for Summer Undergraduate Research

Application Preview

Application opens: as early as possible in Spring Semester
Student Application closes: March 20
Mentor / Recommender Application Supplements close: March 27
Funding decisions sent out: April 10

BASIC INFORMATION AND ELIGIBILITY CHECK

First Name _____________________________ Last Name _______________________________
Nickname / Preferred Name ______________________ UR Student ID Number ______________________
Expected Date of Graduation or T5/e5 completion [ May / December ] [ 2020 / 2021 / 2022 / 2023 ]*
  *If you are graduating May 2020, University policy does not allow us to support you with Summer funds. Please discuss funding options with your supervisor.

Which category best identifies the type of request you are making?

- Internship (company, industry, organization, or professional setting)*
- Research (academic or university setting; supervised by faculty, PI, doctoral or post-doc student)
  *Non-research Internship funding has a separate application hosted by the Greene Center with its own unique set of eligibility criteria and application deadlines. Please visit their Summer Internship Funding website for additional information.

Are you receiving academic credit for this experience? [ Y / N ]*
  *The Discover Grant cannot support for-credit experiences. Please contact the Office of Undergraduate Research to discuss potential alternatives if you are receiving course credit for your experience.

Is your experience mentored / supervised by a University of Rochester faculty member? Direct, day-to-day mentorship by a research-track faculty member, lab manager, postdoc, or graduate student working under a faculty member count as a “yes” for this question. [ Y / N ]*
  *The Discover Grant is now tailored to support research taking place under the supervision of University of Rochester faculty only. Please contact the Office of Undergraduate Research to discuss potential alternatives if your experience is mentored by a non-UR faculty member.

Are you receiving an hourly wage for this experience? [ Y / N ]*
  *Unfortunately, the limited Discover Grant budget does not afford us the opportunity to fund paid positions. If you are receiving wages for your time, you are not eligible for a Discover Grant.
MENTOR AND RECOMMENDER INFORMATION

Your supervisor will need to complete a REQUIRED application supplement detailing their mentorship plan—due March 27. Without this supplement, your application will not be complete and will not be considered for funding. Once you have entered your mentor’s information in the online application, you will be able to click “SEND NOW” to have the required supplement sent to them. Do not wait to send this message! Please let your mentor know to look for an email from PerfectForms in their inbox or junk folder.

Supervisor (required)

- On-site supervisor (who will you be working with?) ____________________________
- Supervisor title (Professor, Postdoctoral Student, Graduate Student, Technician, etc.) ______________
- Supervisor’s Primary Department ____________________________
- Supervisor contact email (please enter email CAREFULLY to ensure delivery of the required application supplement) ____________________________________________

A recommender of your choice can submit an OPTIONAL letter of support on your behalf. Although a letter of recommendation is not an absolute requirement, it can significantly strengthen your application. Once you have entered your mentor’s information in the online application, you will be able to click “SEND NOW” to have the supplement sent to them. Do not wait to send this message! Please let your recommender know to look for an email from PerfectForms in their inbox or junk folder.

Recommender (optional)

- Recommender (Who will be writing a recommendation on your behalf?) ____________________________
  *Your mentor and optional recommender may or may not be the same person. Choose a recommender who can speak to your character and fit for research. Feel free to reach out to non-faculty members and/or people outside of UR.
- Recommender relationship (Mentor, Professor, Teacher, Advisor, Coach, etc.) ________________
- Recommender contact email (please enter email CAREFULLY to ensure delivery of the required application supplement) ____________________________________________

CONTACT INFORMATION

UR email address ____________________________  UR CMC Box ____________________________
Permanent / Home Address (NOT UR/campus address)
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
Summer Mailing address*
* This may or may not be the same as your permanent address.
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
ACADEMICS

Major _____________________________
Are you currently in good academic standing? [ Y / N ]
  *If you are not currently in good academic standing (e.g., on academic probation), you will have an opportunity to explain your circumstances.
Upload a 1-page resume in PDF format.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Will your experience take place within the University of Rochester system? (e.g., River Campus, URMC, Mount Hope Family Center, Laser Lab, Highland Hospital, etc.) [ Y / N ]*
  *If your experience is mentored by a UR faculty member but is taking place outside of the University, you will need to detail
    ● The city, state/province, and country where your experience will take you.
    ● Whether the U.S. Department of State has a Travel Advisory level 3 or 4 issued for your experience’s location. (Visit the U.S. Department of State Travel Advisories page to learn about a country’s status; visit the Global Engagement page to learn about the University’s definition of a high-risk destination)

Start date [MM/DD/YYYY] ____________________  End date [MM/DD/YYYY] ____________________
On average, how many hours per week will be devoted to this experience? ____________________________

Type of experience (select best fit or, as needed, best combination)
  ❏ Engineering
  ❏ Humanities
  ❏ Natural Sciences and Mathematics
  ❏ Social Sciences

Research statement
Tell us about your proposed experience. Be specific; your description must include
  a) context for the project: that is, situate this project within its field,
  b) the project’s main aims, and, most importantly,
  c) your individual role/contributions to the work.

Personal statement
In your personal statement, be sure to address the following questions: Why research? What has led you to wanting to engage with this experience? What is this experience’s relationship to your personal, academic, and professional goals? How and why do you think this experience will meet your expectations?

Other funding/opportunities
Please list any other sources of funding for your summer experience that you are applying for. We strongly encourage you to explore other opportunities (e.g., competitive fellowships, departmental awards, mentor stipends, etc.) that may offer more support than Discover; just let us know what alternatives you have in mind!
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Mentor Application Supplement Preview (REQUIRED)

When an applicant hits SEND NOW or SEND REMINDER in the Mentor section of the student application, an email will go out to the mentor soliciting input through our online system.

Mentors will elaborate on the following questions. The mentor’s answers will be taken into consideration as part of the evaluation of the student application. However, their answers will NOT be shared with the student applicant.

MENTORSHIP PLAN
● How will the student be supervised and evaluated over the course of the experience?
● Why did you agree to mentor this student?

DETAILS
Are you providing your student an hourly wage for this experience? [ Y / N ]
Are you providing your student a stipend for this experience? [ Y / N ]  If Y: How much? ______________________
How many hours per week do you expect the student to dedicate to this experience? ______________________
Any additional notes or comments?

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Recommender Application Supplement (OPTIONAL)

When an applicant hits SEND NOW or SEND REMINDER in the Recommender section of the student application, an email will go out to the recommender soliciting input through our online system.

Recommenders may EITHER upload a letter or elaborate on the following questions in the textboxes provided. The recommender’s responses will be taken into consideration as part of the evaluation of the student application. However, their contributions will NOT be shared with the student.

OPTION 1: LETTER UPLOAD
Please upload your letter of support here.

OPTION 2: SHORT-ANSWER RESPONSE
● How and for how long have you known this student / in what capacity?
● Comment on student’s character. What attributes will student bring to the role of researcher?
● How do you believe this student will benefit from a research experience?
● Any additional notes or comments? (optional)