TERMS OF REFERENCE PROGRAM FOR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (PURE) AWARDS

Purpose

The Cenovus PURE EDI program and the S Union Quality Money Fund: Creating Equitable Pathways to Undergraduate Research allocate additional awards to students from equity-deserving groups, including women in STEM, Indigenous students, students with disabilities, 2SLGBTQI+ students, and students who identify as racialized/visible minorities.

PURE Award Application Process: Student

Candidates must apply for the PURE award through the online summer studentships application portal and submit their application by 11:59 PM on the day the application is due. Proposals for PURE program research projects must originate from and be drafted primarily by the student applicant.

In addition to the PURE award, students' applications will be considered for multiple awards through the summer studentship application portal, including the Alberta Children's Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI) award, the Alberta Cancer Foundation (ACF) award, NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA), Alberta Innovates Summer Research Studentships (SRS), O'Brien Centre Summer Studentships (OCSS), the Libin Cardiovascular Health Research award, and other awards. Students will automatically be considered for multiple awards in the summer studentship application portal. Eligibility will be determined based on the qualifications of the awards.

PURE Award Application process: Supervisor

After submitting a student application, supervisors will be asked to comment on the merits of both the applicant, the research project, and the mentorship environment through the online summer studentships application portal. Supervisors will have some time after the student submission deadline to complete their review.

PURE Award Holder responsibilities

Students must submit the required banking information to the University of Calgary to receive PURE Award funding.

Students holding PURE Awards will be registered in a section of the RVST 598 shell course by the PURE Program Administrator to ensure compliance with University of Calgary insurance guidelines. Students must connect with their supervisor to discuss the daily and weekly expectations of their PURE research term commitment; hours should not exceed 35 per week.

To make the most out of the PURE research experience, it is strongly recommended that students take no more than one course throughout their research term. Students are expected to commit full-time to their PURE research and are encouraged to discuss workload and expectations with their supervisor if they wish to take a spring or summer course during their research term.

Students offered a PURE award will be required to accept or decline the offer by a date specified in the offer notification.

PURE award holders cannot hold another summer studentship award during the same award cycle.

research environment in which they conduct their research and regularly interact with their supervisor.

During their research term, PURE students must complete an entry and end-point evaluation survey. Following the completion of their term, they are asked to a report of their experience and must ensure it meets the expectations of PURE and the supervisor. Failure to submit a final report may render a student ineligible for future awards.

PURE Award Supervisor responsibilities

Supervisors will be entered into a pool of reviewers for the summer studentship competition and will be required to review applications of students other than their own.

The supervisor of a PURE award holder is expected to mentor and support the student, providing an opportunity for the student to learn and develop research skills.

The supervisor must ensure the student can conduct their research experience in a safe and ethical environment, following the procedures and rules of the University of Calgary and, if applicable, those of the specific research environment in which the student is engaged.

The supervisor is to meet regularly with the student and provide regular feedback and support to the student and the student's research project.

The supervisor is to review and approve the student's final PURE report to ensure the report adequately explains the award holder's research successes and challenges.

Award Administration

The Office of the Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning), the PURE Academic Lead, and PURE Administrator from the Office of Experiential Learning will provide the final PURE Awards student acceptance list to the Student Awards Office. The Student Awards Office will allocate student award amounts in conjunction with the Office of the Registrar.

PURE Award Program Learning Outcomes

Develop a research plan, identify a specific area of inquiry, assess the viability and suitability of research practices, carry-out the research plan, and communicate research findings.

Collaborate with other researchers in designing, planning, and implementing a research, scholarly, or creative project.

Describe the importance of your research to communities on- and off-campus; effectively communicate the value and impact of your research and conclusions to various audiences. Reflect on and articulate the impact of the PURE research experience on research skill development and researcher identity.

Reflect on and articulate the impact of the PURE research experience on academic and professional growth and career goals.

Establish and participate in a community of scholars, developing a network of undergraduate, graduate, and faculty researchers across campus and beyond.

Appreciate the value of diverse perspectives throughout all aspects of a research project. Feel welcomed into a community of scholars that actively recognizes stereotype threat, bias, and microaggressions and acknowledges intersecting professional and personal identities.