

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPPORT FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2009-2010

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Students must be at least first-semester sophomores by credit, enrolled full-time and in good standing at American University.
- Faculty members who supervise projects may be full or part-time and will be eligible for stipends or research funds as specified below.
- A student may only receive one (1) research grant—a Student Research Award or a Summer Student Fellowship—during their time at AU. In addition to one of these grants, a student may also apply for one reimbursement from the Student Research Expense Fund each academic year. There is no restriction on funding from other sources, nor upon being awarded funds from other sources concurrently with an undergraduate research support grant.
- All research or creative activities must be consistent with the university's policies and requirements on research and all travel including international travel must conform to the university's policies on travel and international travel. It is the awardee's responsibility to consult the appropriate documents.

As part of American University's commitment to undergraduate research, the Dean of Academic Affairs offers three types of financial support: two grant programs (the Student Research Awards and the Summer Student Research Fellowships) and the Student Research Expense Fund.

Student Research Awards support undergraduate students in their sophomore, junior or senior years as they engage in research or creative projects during the fall and spring academic semesters. Activities funded by this award include travel costs associated with research, fees for conferences relevant to your discipline where you will either present findings or conduct research, purchase of necessary research equipment, or other expenses directly related to the proposed research. The competition for Student Research Awards expects to fund up to 20 students for approved research or creative work directed by a faculty member. The supervising faculty member must support the student's application in writing. Students will be eligible for up to \$1,000 of support as a stipend or as research expenses (such as travel), or any combination of these. The application should include a simple budget proposal detailing all anticipated expenses. In addition, sponsoring faculty members will receive \$500, payable as either a stipend or as research funds to the faculty member.

Summer Student Research Fellowships support undergraduate students in pursuing large directed research or creative projects in the summers following their sophomore or junior years. This competition is intended to fund at least five students for research or creative work on projects directed by a faculty member. The supervising faculty member must support the student's application in writing. Students will be eligible for up to \$2,500 of support as a stipend or for research expenses (such as travel), or any combination of these. The application should include a simple budget proposal detailing all anticipated expenses. In addition, sponsoring faculty members will receive \$500, payable as either a stipend or as research funds to the faculty member.

The **Student Research Expense Fund** is for supporting undergraduate student research or creative work with funding for small expenses during the student's career at American University. The Student

Research Expense Fund may be used for projects, whether attached to courses, conducted independently, or as part of other research or creative requirements like senior theses or Capstones. This enables students to apply directly for reimbursement of small expenses attached to research or creative activities, up to \$500. There is no deadline for receipt of the application for Student Research Expense Fund. Funds are limited by the available budget and the demand.

Student Research Award Applications will be due by November 3, 2009 for funding during the spring semester of 2010, and by February 16, 2010 for funding during the summer semester of 2010 or the fall semester of 2010. A final report on spring 2010 research activities funded by the grant will be due on November 3, 2010, or on May 8, 2010 in the case of graduating seniors. A final report on summer research activities funded by the grant will be due on November 1, 2010, and a final report on fall 2010 grant-funded research activities will be due on May 8, 2011.

Applications and reports should be submitted in hard copy form to the University Honors Program in Hurst Hall, room 206 AND in electronic form to honors@american.edu.

Proposals will be evaluated by a committee composed of university faculty and staff. Highly ranked proposals will be forwarded to the Dean of Academic Affairs for consideration. Decisions will be announced as soon as they are made. Please direct inquiries via e-mail at honors@american.edu, or by phone at (202) 885-6194.