

MizzouForward Undergraduate Research Training Grants

Purpose: The purpose of these fellowships is to financially support undergraduate students who are serious about pursuing a graduate education in STEM, in order to enhance their opportunity to be admitted into the Graduate School of their choice. Only applicants with existing independent research projects will be considered. The program will provide up to \$5,000 per year (June 1- May 30) as salary support for undergraduate student researchers. A successful candidate may compete for a second period of funding (i.e., \$10,000 max per student).

Qualifications

- Rising juniors and juniors will be prioritized but seniors will also be considered.
- Students must be full-time students at the University of Missouri-Columbia.
- Applicants must have at least 6 months of undergraduate research experience in the same lab as their application research project
- The proposed research project must be STEM-related

Application Components:

- Student form describing prior and ongoing research experience and future goals
- Mentor form describing undergraduate research history and Training Plan for the applicant
- Research plan describing the proposed work, including rationale and feasibility
- Student transcript (unofficial OK)

Deliverables:

- Students must submit an external fellowship application within one year of the start of funding
- The funding source (MizzouForward Undergraduate Research Training Grant) must be acknowledged in publications and presentations
- The student must present the work at appropriate venues at least once during each funding period
- Awardees must submit a Progress Report at the end of each funding period, describing activities and outcomes resulting from the funding as well as copies of manuscripts, grant proposals, patent applications etc. (when available)
- Students must inform the Training Grant coordinators of their postgraduation placement
- Mentors agree to train and help the awardee prepare a fellowship for external funding
- Publication/s or funding resulting from this fellowship must be reported to the Training Grant coordinators in a timely manner
- Mentors must be available to review future applications (one commitment/granting period)
- The funds may only be used to pay for student salary at an hourly rate of at least \$15/hr. Award funding will be provided via a departmental transfer; any unused funds must be returned at the end of the award period

Review Process:

The Review Committee will be composed of faculty members with a track record of successful undergraduate research training representing all Colleges with STEM programs at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The Critique forms will be returned to students and mentors as form of feedback.

Deadlines

Applications must be submitted to MizzouForwardURTG@missouri.edu by March 17, 2023; critiques and award notices will be sent by the end of April.

Questions?

Please email MizzouForwardURTG@missouri.edu with any questions.

Application instructions:

The goal of this Fellowship is to enhance MU undergraduate student success in applications for graduate school and to support undergraduates contributing to the research efforts of faculty at MU. Criteria for selection are demonstrated aptitude and interest in research as demonstrated by the student's and mentor's letters; an environment that will provide training in appropriate research methods as well as professional skills (project design and management, data validity and research ethics, grant and paper writing, poster and oral presentations, etc.); and a proposed research plan that is feasible for the applicant and environment with the amount of time and effort proposed. The Research Plan should include the rationale for the proposed work, the experiments/ activities proposed, a justification of feasibility for the applicant and environment, and a description of what will be gained/learned if the proposed work is successful.

To apply, complete the Student Form, Mentor Form, and Research Plan and assemble them as a single .pdf document. Email the .pdf and a scan of the completed (initialed/signed) Certification Form to MizzouForwardURTG@missouri.edu.

Questions? Email MizzouForwardURTG@missouri.edu.

Student form (2 pages maximum)

Name:

email:

Student number:

Academic department:

Will you have completed your sophomore year by the time the grant begins?

Will you have been working on a project/this project in the lab for at least one semester by the time the project begins?

What are your current plans after you graduate?

List relevant coursework that you will have completed by the time the grant begins:

List presentations or publications you have participated in:

Describe your research experience so far:

Describe your research goals:

Mentor form (2 pages maximum)

Name:

Email:

Academic department:

Position:

Do you verify that the applicant meets the qualifications for this funding (completed sophomore year, will have had at least 6 months in lab by June 1)?

How many undergraduates have you trained? Where did they go following graduation?

Describe the research skills or experiences the applicant will gain or improve upon during the funding period:

Describe the professional skills or experiences the applicant will gain or improve upon during the funding period:

Describe how you will supervise and mentor the applicant during the funding period:

Discuss the applicant's motivation, experience, and aptitude for research:

Research Plan (2 pages maximum)

Certification form

Please initial each point and sign at the bottom.

If this application is funded:

I/ We will acknowledge this funding (MizzouForward Undergraduate Research Training Grant) in any publications or presentations that result: _____

I/ We certify that the applicant will present their results at an appropriate internal or external venue at least once during the funding period: _____

I/ We will submit a Progress Report at the end of the funding period: _____

I/ We certify that the applicant will apply for an external fellowship within one year of beginning this funding: _____

I/ We will keep the Training Grant coordinators informed of the applicant's fellowship application status and postgraduate placement: _____

(Student) I understand that receiving this grant may affect my need-based financial aid: _____

(Mentor) I will participate in the review process in at least one of the next two cycles: _____

(Mentor) I certify that all necessary training and research compliance requirements (ACUC, EHS, IRB, etc. as appropriate to the project) have been met by the student and the lab: _____

Student signature: _____

Date: _____

Mentor signature: _____

Date: _____