CURL Student Fellowship

Application Template

The Centre for Undergraduate Research Learning (CURL) aims to transform undergraduate learning through opportunities that prepare students to participate in and reflect on research and scholarly activities. The Centre accomplishes this by coordinating, assessing, and celebrating student-faculty research collaborations and other immersive research learning opportunities.

CURL Research Fellowships are designed to allow students to take leadership of an independent research project under the mentorship and guidance of a faculty member at Huron. CURL supports the design and dissemination of highly accessible research: your research may culminate in a paper, a documentary, an event, or even a comic book.

**For the 2021-22 academic year, it is strongly advised that students’ data collection procedures be conducted online due to COVID-19. Projects proposing to work with humans in person will be reviewed by the REB, and they will determine what is best for potential participants.**

**Eligibility:**  All current students registered in a major or honours specialization in the Faculty of Arts and Social Science at Huron are eligible except those who have already been awarded a CURL Fellowship. Students who have NOT been awarded a Fellowship, but who have received other CURL awards, ARE eligible.

**Instructions:**  Each application for a CURL Research Fellowship includes two parts: 1) Student Application, and 2) Faculty Mentor Statement. Applications will be considered incomplete if only a faculty application or student application is received; submissions must be made by both.

**Template for drafts:**A Word template of the application may be found [on the CURL website.](https://www.huronresearch.ca/curl/research-fellowships/) This survey will save your text field entries and provide you with a response summary once complete.

**Resources:**The CURL OWL page holds a wide range of resources that may help you when writing your application, including information on [Research Ethics](https://owl.uwo.ca/portal/site/080ff496-bfd2-47e7-89a0-022df4e546b5/tool/1720b2f2-8d66-4ed6-a059-370ed7b0c48e?null), [Data Management](https://owl.uwo.ca/x/LzpQVE), [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion in Research](https://owl.uwo.ca/x/dqWed7), [Knowledge Mobilization](https://owl.uwo.ca/x/OGqrUW), and more. If you are unable to access these resources on the CURL OWL page, please email curl@uwo.ca.

**Social Media:**By default, CURL posts Fellowship winners' names, headshots, project descriptions, reflections, and final projects on our social media and website. However, we respect students' right to control what information is released about them online. If you want any of your content (even just a sentence or two!) to be edited, removed, or not posted in the first place, please let us know at curl@uwo.ca

Applications will be reviewed by the CURL Awards Committee. If you have any questions about the application, please contact mailto:curl@uwo.ca.

# **Student Information**

* First Name
* Last Name
* Program/Department
* Email Address
* Student Number
* Year in Program
* Pronouns

If this is a collaborative project with other students, please list the names (first and last) of your student research collaborators below.  The Applicant will be considered the primary researcher and first author of this research proposal by default and will be responsible for meeting the terms of the award.  If the Student Applicant is NOT the primary researcher, please contact curl@uwo.ca.

# **Faculty Mentor Information**

Please provide the name of your primary Faculty Mentor for this fellowship. Note that the Faculty Mentor must be a Faculty Associate Member of CURL, and the Faculty Mentor must complete and submit the Faculty Mentor Support Form in order to complete this application.

* First Name
* Last Name
* Email Address
* Department/Program

# **Research Project Summary**

Briefly summarize the project you propose to undertake during this fellowship.  In other words, tell the Awards Committee WHAT you plan to study in your fellowship. **(500 words maximum)**

Using language for a non-expert (i.e., avoid excessive use of jargon and discipline-specific terminology), please do your best to describe:

1. The basic research objectives
2. How the project could extend our existing knowledge of the problem or research question (briefly—you will cover the significance in more detail in the "Significance" section), and
3. How you plan to tell others in the Huron community about your research, or otherwise mobilize it, when completed.

**[Enter Answer Here]**

# **Significance**

In this section, please describe the significance of your proposed research project. In other words, briefly tell the Awards Committee WHY your research question is interesting and significant. (500 words maximum)

Using language for the non-expert, please describe:

1. How this research project (and its potential outcomes) fills a gap in the existing research in the area,
2. Why you are interested in this research problem, and
3. How this research project contributes to your own personal learning.

Additionally, consider the relevance of the following questions related to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion to your own proposed research project: Do the findings from the literature review integrate diversity and implications for different people? Are you including, for example, authors from underrepresented or disadvantaged groups, and/or who employ critical theories (e.g., feminist, race, disability) or Indigenous knowledge systems? Do the findings from the literature review integrate diversity and implications for different people?

**[Enter Answer Here]**

# **Methodology**

**REMINDER: It is strongly recommended that 2021-22 Research Fellowship projects be carried out online. Applicants proposing in-person research will have their project reviewed by Huron’s Research Ethics Board to ensure safety for the project’s participants.**

In this section, using non-technical language suitable for the general reader, please describe the basic methodology you propose to use in your research project. In other words, describe to the Awards Committee HOW you plan to approach your research question. (500 words maximum)

Proactive consideration of equity, diversity, and inclusion during the process of research design is essential in creating innovative and impactful research. In your description of your methodology, consider the following questions, as well as other ways you have considered equity, diversity, and inclusion in your research: Have you considered accessibility needs of participants involved in the research? Have you included diverse perspectives in the sources consulted and referenced in your application?

**[Enter Answer Here]**

# **Origins of the Project**

Describe the origins of this research proposal. For example, is this proposal an extension of a course assignment? Alternatively, is this research project part of a larger research program of your Faculty Mentor? Is it simply an idea that formed when you noticed a problem within your community? Additionally, please provide a brief summary of your role in this research project (e.g., lead researcher vs. research assistant to your Faculty Mentor).

If this proposal originated from a course assignment, please describe to the Awards Committee how this is different from the original assignment for which you were given course credit. Please note that CURL Fellowship Awards may only be awarded for projects that are extra-curricular in nature (i.e., may not be part of a current course assignment for course credit). (500 words maximum)

**[Enter Answer Here]**

# **Research Ethics, Data Management, and Knowledge Mobilization**

Depending on the nature of your project, if awarded a fellowship you may need to submit a research proposal to Huron’s Research Ethics Board for review, which must be approved prior to starting your research. If your project will be working directly with human participants, you will require REB approval to collect data. If you are unsure if your project requires REB review, please read the resources provided here and consult with your faculty mentor (if you are unable to access these resources, please email curl@uwo.ca).

**Please check the box located at this point in the real application if your project may require Research Ethics Board review.**

Regardless of whether your project requires formal REB approval, thinking about what you plan to do with the data you have collected and the findings you have acquired is an important part of any research project. Researchers have the responsibility to ensure that any data they have collected is safeguarded and stored in a place where participants information is protected. Researchers also have the responsibility to communicate their findings in a way that others can understand to the appropriate stakeholders.

In the following space, please describe:

1. What is your plan to manage your data at all stages of the research process? (How will data be collected, formatted, and preserved? What will you do with the data once your project comes to an end?)
2. Who is the audience who will benefit from your research? How do you plan to communicate your findings to these audiences? (500 words maximum)

**[Enter Answer Here]**

# **Alternate Funding Opportunity**

In addition to the four $1500 Fellowship awards provided by CURL, funding is available for one additional project per academic year that relates to Psychology and/or Education, open to any Huron student applying for a CURL Research Fellowship. The Fellowship will be adjudicated by the CURL Awards Committee, and will follow the same rules/regulations for review and adjudication as other Research Fellowship awards.

**Please check the box located at this point in the real application if you believe your project has a psychological and/or educational focus to flag it for additional review for this funding.**