

Student Summer Research Program Guidelines



What is the Endeavour Student Summer Research Program?

The Endeavour Student Summer Research Program is coordinated by the Office of Research in conjunction with research teams within the College, and provides an opportunity for students and recent alumni graduates to work with a researcher in a formal research environment.

Projects are available for between 6 -10 weeks over the summer break (from mid-November to mid-February) and do not contribute credit towards degree requirements.

Eligibility

The Endeavour Student Summer Research Program is open to undergraduate students, who:

- Are currently enrolled at greater than or equal to 50% full time load in an undergraduate degree at the College;
- Have completed at least one year of study;
- A recent alumni graduate (course completion in the same calendar year as commencement of summer program)
- Are studying for a degree relevant to the research project;
- Have achieved a grade point average of 5.5 or above during their undergraduate degree;
- Have the potential to and interest in undertaking postgraduate study (masters or PhD); and
- Are able to demonstrate a high level of English language proficiency.

Application and Review Process

Calls for applications for the Endeavour Student Summer Research Program will be announced by mid-October and applicants will be expected to submit their applications by the beginning of November (as outlined in the Call for Applications). Applicants should liaise with the Research Mentor identified for their project of interest before submitting an application to obtain more information about the project availability and suitability. Applicants must also indicate in their application if they would like to be considered for the Endeavour Research Summer Scholarship or

Endeavour Student Research Travel Grant (as outlined in the Office of Research Funding Policy)

Applications will be reviewed and scored through a competitive process by a working group of the Research Management Committee, taking into account:

- The availability of projects and supervisors;
- The academic merit of the applicant as evidenced by their grade point average;
- Reasons provided for wanting to participate in the program;
- The quality of the project; and
- Available funding.

Agreement on the successful applicant and their fit with the proposed project will be sought by the Research Mentor before the position will be offered to the applicant. Successful applicants will be notified of the research project within 7 days of the close of applications.

Obligations from Student Researchers

Students are expected to participate in an ongoing research project or to undertake a substantial piece of supervised research work. Successful applicants can also elect to be considered for the Endeavour Summer Research Scholarship as outlined in the Office of Research Funding Policy. The research period commences in mid-November and concludes in mid-February and is normally broken into two parts to allow for the Christmas break when the College is closed.

It is expected that students will work a minimum of 20 hours per week for at least six weeks. Some positions require scholars to work on a full-time basis (up to 36 hours per week), and the expected workload is set by the Research Mentor. Where appropriate to the project, additional discipline/project specific obligations may also be required, such as training in research safety and ethics. This will be outlined by the Research Mentor.

When offers are made, the contact officers will provide scholars with details of the starting dates and expected workload. The scholar and the supervisor are able to negotiate the duration of the project and the workload requirements.

Student Researchers will be required to submit a report to the Office of Research outlining the experience and skills gained through involvement in the Endeavour Student Summer Research Program by the end of February.

Obligations from Research Mentors

Research Mentors can apply to have a Student Researcher allocated to their research project through the Office of Research. Applications must be submitted by the end of September for approval by the Research Management Committee prior to inclusion in the list of available projects. Projects will only be considered for inclusion in the Endeavour Student Summer Research Program if they fulfil the following criteria:

- Appropriate resourcing and support for the project;
- An articulated role for the student within the project;
- Preferred skills and attributes are suitable to an undergraduate student;
- Supervisor availability to ensure the student receives appropriate support;
- Clearly outlined expected outputs from the student;
- Time commitments and availability for participant in the project are in line with Program Guidelines.

It is expected that Research Mentors will be able to provide mentoring and supervisory support to the student through regular meetings (minimum of weekly), and will have allocated tasks that are appropriate and relevant to the students skill set to ensure a positive and successful experience for the student and the research team. The Research Mentor must also clearly communicate all expectations to the Student Researcher and ensure agreement to all terms is in place prior to project commencement.

Research Mentors will be required to submit a report to the Office of Research outlining the Student Researcher's contribution to the research project within two weeks of the project completion.