



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Undergraduate Research Scholarships, Fellowships, Grants & Awards at OSU

DEPARTMENT OF
MOLECULAR GENETICS

Research Awards for Molecular Genetics Students

The Jim Hopper Memorial Undergraduate Research Award

This award was established in memory of Dr. Jim Hopper who was a Professor of Molecular Genetics. Jim's primary research interests were to understand how cells respond to environmental cues by regulating transcriptional switches, using galactose-responsive transcription in the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. Jim's work contributed greatly to understandings of how post-transcriptional mechanisms regulate genetic switches. The studies, funded by the NIH for over 30 years, resulted >50 publications in prominent journals.

Jim Hopper was passionate about providing opportunities for undergraduates to engage in independent research. Thus, the Jim Hopper Memorial Research Award supports undergraduate research for OSU Molecular Genetics majors. The Memorial Fund was made possible by contributions from colleagues, friends, and family of Jim Hopper in memory of his distinguished career as a scientist and educator and by a gift of the estate of Dr. Charles H. Baer to the Department of Molecular Genetics.

The application deadline will be in Feb. 24, 2020. Link to apply: <http://go.osu.edu/MGScholarships>. Funds can be used during school term or summer.

The Thomas J Byers Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Thomas J Byers Memorial Scholarship Fund was established June 1, 2007 with gifts from family, friends, and colleagues in memory of Dr. Thomas Jones Byers. The fund is used to provide scholarship support for undergraduate students performing research in the Department of Molecular Genetics with the goal of pursuing a PhD degree in the life sciences.

The Byers Scholarship supports research projects. Awarded funds can only be used toward tuition during semesters of enrollment (typically AU and SP).

The application process is described at: <https://molgen.osu.edu/research-scholarship-opportunities> and the deadline will be in Feb. 24, 2020. Link to apply: <http://go.osu.edu/MGScholarships>.

The Elizabeth Wagner Scholarship

The Elizabeth Wagner Scholarship was endowed in 2002 by her son, William Reed of Seattle, in her memory. It provides scholarships in the Department of Molecular Genetics, with preference given to women undergraduate students with interest in plant biology. Dr. Wagner earned her BA (1943), MA (1944) and PhD (1946) at Ohio State University. Dr. Wagner's specialization was plant physiology. She authored or co-authored 40 publications, including a number on biological education, in which she was deeply involved.

The Elizabeth Wagner Scholarship supports research projects. Applicants. Applicants must have a faculty mentor and will submit a personal statement and a description of the research project. Awarded funds can only be used toward tuition during semesters of enrollment (typically AU and SP).

The application process deadline will be in Feb. 24, 2020. Link to apply: <http://go.osu.edu/MGScholarships>

OSU Arts and Sciences Research Programs

Undergraduate Researcher Apprentice Program – “URAP”

This program is sponsored by the Undergraduate Research Office. It supports new undergraduate research investigators who have not previously received funding for summer research.

- **Overview:** Summer term support. Requires personal statement, project description and timeline, project budget, OSU advising report.
- **Eligibility:** Full-time student for both Spring and Autumn semesters; in good academic standing; has OSU faculty adviser who is responsible for overseeing research. Personal statement and research project description required. Support letter from mentor required. Awardees must participate in an OUR&CI-sponsored event.
- **Benefits:** Stipend maximum of \$4,560 for up to 38 hr/week for 10 weeks. Applications due Feb. 2020. Link: <https://ugresearch.osu.edu/Pages/Initiatives-%20Funding-%20Apprentice%20Program.aspx>.

Arts and Sciences Natural & Mathematical Sciences Majors – Mayers Summer Research Scholarship

This program is sponsored by the Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry Office. It supports new Arts and Sciences undergraduate research investigators who have not previously received funding for research.

- **Overview:** Summer term support. Requires personal statement, project description and timeline, project budget, OSU advising report.
- **Eligibility:** Full-time student for both Spring and Autumn semesters; in good academic standing; has OSU faculty adviser who is responsible for overseeing research. Requires a project proposal and recommendation from the advisor
- **Benefits:** Stipend maximum of \$4,000. Applications due Feb. 2020.
- **Scholarship link:** <https://ugresearch.osu.edu/Pages/For%20Current%20Researchers-%20Summer%20Funding-%20Mayers.aspx>.

OSU STEP Fellowships

- STEP is designed to focus on student success and development and will allow students the opportunity to engage in activities that cater to their individual interests and needs. Following the completion of program requirements, students are eligible to receive a fellowship of up to \$2,000 to support the STEP Signature Project they have developed with the help of a member of the STEP Faculty. Students will submit a budget for their project that will be reviewed and approved by STEP Administration. Students will submit their budget on their [Student Dashboard](#).
- The fellowship will be available to students to support the completion of their project during the year after their STEP participation, beginning on the day after the end of spring semester and continuing until classes begin fifteen months later (approximately August 15).
- Students are not eligible to receive the STEP Fellowship if they graduate immediately after completing their STEP participation.
- Link: <https://step.osu.edu/program-overview/step-fellowship/>.

Specialized Research Programs

Undergraduate Student Pelotonia Fellowship Program

The **Pelotonia Fellowship Program** provides one-year research fellowships to the best and brightest OSU undergraduate students who want to help cure cancer. Cancer is a complex disease and curing it will take a multidisciplinary effort. So, no matter what the field of study, from traditional scientific fields to fields like engineering, history and business, all OSU undergraduate students may apply. Undergraduate fellows are paid a \$12,000 annual stipend to work on their mentored independent research projects. During the summer, they are expected to put fulltime effort into their projects, and during the academic year, part-time effort.

Eligibility: To be eligible, an applicant must: (1) Be an outstanding Ohio State undergraduate student; (2) Propose a mentored cancer-related project; (3) Be willing to participate in Pelotonia.

Link: <https://cancer.osu.edu/research-and-education/pelotonia-funded-research/pelotonia-fellowship-program/undergraduate-student-pelotonia-fellowship-program>.

Research Experience for Undergraduates Program (REU)

This program is sponsored by the departments of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology and the Division of Biochemistry at the Ohio State University and is funded by the National Science Foundation. The REU program provides a cohesive framework for undergraduate summer research, focusing on the use of model organisms and molecular biology techniques to address fundamental questions in biology, while preparing students for successful graduate study in molecular life sciences. Link: <https://molgen.osu.edu/research-experience-undergraduates>.

Overview: Laboratory safety training and laboratory procedure workshops; full-time research activities; training in scientific writing and communication; social activities. Applications are due Feb. 15, 2020.

- **Eligibility:** U.S. Citizenship or Permanent Residency; Current full-time enrollment in a U.S. college or university; Completion of basic course work in chemistry, biology and physics; Persons from groups underrepresented in science are strongly encouraged to apply; Sophomores and Juniors are especially encouraged to apply, but strong applications from Freshmen will be considered; Participants must be at least 18 years old on the first day of the program; Applications from students with limited research opportunities or from 2 year institutions are highly encouraged.
- **Benefits:** Stipend of \$5,000; Housing in university dormitory or area apartments; Meal allowance.

OSU Center for RNA Biology Scholarships

The OSU Center for RNA Biology (CRB) offers two different funds for undergraduate research: The Daniel Schoenberg RNA undergraduate research fellowship and the CRB Summer Undergraduate Program. Both funds are available to Ohio State University undergraduate students conducting research in laboratories of CRB faculty (<https://rna.osu.edu/about-us/members/>). Both funds are dedicated to students in their junior or senior year who are conducting RNA research and intend to enter postgraduate PhD programs. Applications for the Daniel Schoenberg fellowship will be due in May, 2020 and requires a research description, a personal statement, and 3 letters of recommendation. Applications for the CRB Summer Undergraduate Program will be due Feb., 2020.

- Links: <https://rna.osu.edu/education-and-outreach/the-daniel-schoenberg-rna-undergraduate-research-fellowship/>; <https://rna.osu.edu/education-and-outreach/undergraduate-program/>.

Scholarships & Grants for Honor and Scholar Students

Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Grants

- **Eligibility:** For Honors or Scholars students who have attained junior standing and meet one of the following criteria: be a potential candidate for graduation with (honors) research distinction, or present other evidence of work on a significant research project. The scholarships, range from \$500 to approximately \$3,000. Applicants are required to have a faculty sponsor.
- **Deadlines:**
 - The Autumn 2019 grant competition application is due Oct. 1, 2019 for funding beginning in Nov. Funds can be used during winter break, spring semester, or spring break. Link: <https://honors-scholars.osu.edu/current-students/opportunities>.
 - The Spring 2020 grant application will be due Jan. 15, 2020 for funding starting late spring, or summer, or early fall. Further application information will be at: <https://honors-scholars.osu.edu/current-students/opportunities>.

Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Scholarships - URS

- **Eligibility:** For Arts and Sciences Honors students who meet the following criteria: (1) have junior standing; (2) be a potential candidate for graduation with (honors) research distinction, or present other evidence of work on a significant research project; (3) be full-time during semesters of funding; (4) NOT be graduating Spring 2020 semester; (5) have an OSU faculty mentor overseeing the project.
- **Benefits:** The scholarships, which range from \$500 to approximately \$12,000, may be allocated over autumn and spring semesters. Students may apply for up to \$4,000 for student support. Funds will generally be provided for one student per research project. The funds automatically go toward the payment of the student recipient's university tuition and fees.
- **Deadlines:** The Autumn 2019 competition deadline was September 16, 2019; the Spring deadline will be Feb. 3, 2020.
- **Link:** <https://aschonors.osu.edu/opportunities/scholarships/undergrad>.

Further information

Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Inquiry

Link: <https://ugresearch.osu.edu/undergraduate-research-office/about-the-office>.

“The Office of Student Academic Success- Undergraduate Research & Creative Inquiry strives to nurture and support mentored research pursuits of all undergraduate students to proactively transform and enrich their academic experience by providing inclusive and innovative research engagement opportunities and fostering collaborative partnerships in the world beyond the classroom.”