Undergraduate Research in the Sciences Award

Call for Applications
Winter 2016

The purpose of the funds for Undergraduate Research are to provide opportunities for undergraduates to conduct research under the mentorship of faculty in the Division of Physical & Biological Sciences. These awards are for all undergraduates and may support any expenses associated with research.

Award Amounts
This year a total of approximately $24,000 will be awarded. At the direction and discretion of the Dean of Physical & Biological Sciences, up to 25 awards of $500 - $2000 will be available to undergraduates for research projects they conduct or the presentation of results from original research. There are three sources for the funds behind this call: one is designated for research in coastal sustainability, one is designated for research in Earth and marine sciences (Kathryn D. Sullivan Award), and the largest is open to all sciences. Awarded funds will be allocated to the research group in which the work will be conducted according to the budget prepared by the applicant.

How the Funds May Be Used
Recipients may use their award for any purpose associated with conducting or presenting the results of their research. All funds must be used by the end of spring quarter of 2017.

Eligibility
All UCSC undergraduates proposing to conduct scientific research are eligible to apply, with the exception of seniors who will graduate at the end of winter quarter 2016. Priority will be given to applications from students with a major and/or mentor in either a teaching or research position in the Division of Physical & Biological Sciences.

Selection Criteria
Academic and scientific merit is the primary criterion for selection. In addition, the student’s GPA, the clarity of the research proposal, and the relative importance of the project to the student’s academic and career goals will be considered. Significant weight will also be given to the faculty sponsor’s letter of recommendation.

Selection Process
Recipients will be chosen by a committee of faculty affiliated with the Division of Physical & Biological Sciences, appointed by divisional dean.

Application Procedure
Students are invited to apply with the approval of a faculty mentor. The application should be completed online at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UgradResearch

The following supporting materials should be emailed to sciences@ucsc.edu with
subject line “Undergrad Research Application”:
   1. The student’s unofficial transcript
   2. A budget form found here
   3. A reference letter from the faculty sponsor

The application and supporting materials must be submitted no later than Friday, February 5, 2016.

Awards Decision
Awards will be announced no later than March 1, 2016.