

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Undergraduate Research Scholars Program

Purpose: To encourage and support undergraduate students pursuing research experiences, and to recognize excellence in research.

Scope: Undergraduate research projects will be completed over the Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 semesters, with poster and oral presentations occurring at a research symposium to be held on a reading day at the end of the Spring 2025 semester. Students will apply for the research scholars' program in Spring 2024, with up to 30 scholars being selected. Support for proposal writing will be provided. Each scholar successfully completing the program will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, and the faculty mentors will receive up to \$500 to support costs of materials, travel, or other expenditures (budget sheet to be submitted by the faculty mentor upon student scholar selection).

Timeline:

April 15, 2024 – Program opens for applications

April 30, 2024 – Application portal closes

May 10, 2024 – Selected scholars and faculty notified

Fall 2024, Spring 2025 – Research Conducted, faculty support provided

End of Spring 2025 – Symposium abstract submitted, abstracts published, poster and oral presentations at research symposium (April 30th, 2025), scholarships awarded

Student Eligibility:

- Undergraduate student with a primary major in any of the 15 departments within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Sophomore or Junior with an expected graduation date between May 2025 and May 2026
- Registered for 0 or 1+ XXXX-491 Credits for Fall 2024 with their research faculty mentor
- Completed online Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Training - <https://vpr.tamu.edu/research-security-and-export-controls/responsible-conduct-of-research/citi-rcr-training-online/>
- Submitted research proposal, collaboratively developed with and approved by the research faculty mentor, by April 30, 2024

Faculty Mentor Eligibility:

- Primary faculty appointment is in one of the 15 departments within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
- Faculty have a XXXX-491 Research Section
- T/TT, APT, and AgriLife Faculty are all eligible to serve as research faculty mentors
- Collaboratively develop and approve the student's research proposal, XXXX-491 research credits, and the student's weekly time commitment

Support Provided to the Student Research Scholar:

- Program Orientation and LAUNCH Presentation describing available research programming and support for undergraduate research scholars. *Recording & Transcript* - <https://tamu.zoom.us/rec/share/6V6TaBsL3MUQIqzD9MyRb8BCQI9GbMC03Xlxm21N0b1GknnZLPr25EKbaxJ1sp4y.xwe00aJpg014-TZI> Passcode: wDj\$2xQ1
- Proposal writing workshop, 1.30-3:00pm, April 11th, AGLS 501
- Applying to graduate school workshop, Fall 2024
- Abstract writing and presentation workshop, April 2025
- Feedback from judges following the research symposium, April 30th, 2025
- Awards for the best posters and oral presentations

Application Materials and Prompts to be Submitted in InfoReady:

- Student Name, UIN, primary major, expected graduation date
- Fall 2024 XXXX-491 research section and number of credits
- Weekly time commitment for each semester (minimum of 3+ hours/week for 0-1 credits, 3+ hours for each additional credit hour)
- Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) completion certificate
<https://www.citiprogram.org/portal?site=660>
- 2-page proposal including an introduction, specific aims, methodology, expected results, potential pitfalls, and alternative approaches
- Faculty research mentor approval of the proposal, research credits, and weekly time commitment

Questions?

Please contact Dr. Craig Coates, Associate Dean for Programmatic Success

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