



From: David Frost, Associate Dean (Student Affairs)
Date: December 11, 2019
To: Undergraduate students in Year 0, 1, 2, and 3
Re: *Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering (SURE) program for Summer 2020*



We are pleased to announce the **twelfth edition** of the **Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering (SURE)** program. For almost a decade, SURE students have worked closely with engineering professors on innovative research projects for 16 weeks in the summer term. The program provides exposure to research, as well as an opportunity to learn more about graduate school and potential careers in research.

The SURE program offers approximately **130 summer research awards** valued at a minimum of \$5,625 each. Approximately 40 research awards will be made available through the NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards (NSERC USRA) program, while the remaining research awards will be funded through the Faculty of Engineering, the Trottier Institute for Sustainable Engineering and Design (TISED), and by generous donors. In both cases, a portion of the support comes from the research funds of the professor supervising the project.

The SURE research awards that are funded through the Faculty of Engineering are open to Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and international students. However, as per NSERC regulations, the NSERC USRA awards are available to Canadian citizens and permanent residents only.

SURE Program Details

Application Period: January 13th-January 24th 2020

For details on the **available projects and to access application forms**, please visit the [SURE webpage](#). Projects will be posted on **January 08, 2020** and the application form will be available by **January 13, 2020**.

1. Eligibility: Full-time students in **Year 1** (having completed at least two semesters of study at the time of application; at least one completed semester for CEGEP entrants), **Year 2, or Year 3**, who have a **CGPA of 3.0 or higher**. The program is also open to May 2020 (Winter 2020) graduates. For the NSERC USRAs, there are additional eligibility requirements as stated on the [NSERC webpage](#).
2. Participation in the SURE program will be recorded on continuing McGill students' transcripts. Specific 0 credit courses (FACC 351-354 – SURE Experience) have been created to offer continuing McGill students an official record of their participation in the SURE program. Supervisors and SURE participants need to complete a Confirmation Form at the end of the program, confirming that the student has completed the SURE program.
3. The SURE and NSERC USRA awards will be administered by the Faculty through the McGill Engineering Student Centre.
4. The duration of the SURE program is 16 weeks beginning on **Monday, May 4, 2020 and ending on Friday, August 21, 2020**. Students are required to participate in research on a full-time basis.
5. SURE awards are full time awards with a typical engagement from students of 35 to 40 hours weekly for 16 weeks (e.g., SURE participants should not be registered for any summer courses). A vacation request may be accommodated by the supervisor if not in conflict with any SURE events and if the student will make up the missed time. Students' research schedule should be completed during reasonable business hours each day.

How to apply to SURE

1. The first step is to look up the available projects on the [SURE website](#). All projects will be posted on **January 08, 2020**. Once you have settled on your preferred project(s), contact the supervisor(s) to discuss your interest in the research, and the anticipated research tasks and deliverables for the project.
2. If you and the supervisor tentatively agree that you should apply to the project, proceed to the Online Student Application form for which a link can be found on the [SURE website](#) under 'Application'. **The application form will become available on Monday, January 13, 2020.**
3. Students may submit a **maximum of 3 applications**. If a student qualifies for more than one project, it is assumed that they wish to work on all projects equally and thus may be placed in a project at random. Therefore, should the supervisor and student agree to work together, the supervisor should rank only one student and the student should apply to only one project.
4. Please use a new application form for each project you apply to. Once the Online Student Application has been completed and your transcript uploaded, please print a copy and **bring it to your prospective supervisor along with a copy of your Official University Transcript** (McGill students may submit their unofficial Minerva transcripts). External students will be asked to submit an official transcript if they are selected.
5. Plan to attend the 'How to Apply to SURE Information Session', on **Monday, January 13, 2020 at 10:35 a.m. in the Macdonald-Harrington Building, Room G10**. Please register via myFuture (under "Workshops", keyword search: MESC).
6. The deadline for submitting application forms to your prospective supervisor is **Friday, January 24, 2020**. We anticipate a high level of participation in this program and we therefore recommend that you **discuss your candidacy with potential supervisors well ahead of the deadline**. Note: Application packages (i.e., application form and transcript) are to be submitted to your intended supervisor.
7. SURE and NSERC USRAs will be awarded on a competitive basis and award decisions will be based on CGPA and academic credentials. Award decisions will be announced by **Friday, February 21, 2020**.

I encourage you to apply to the SURE program and engage in one of the many exciting research projects available.

Thank you,



cc: Jim Nicell, Dean, Faculty of Engineering
Kaila Folinsbee, Associate Director, Engineering Student Centre
Administrative Assistants, all Engineering Departments/Schools