Neuroscience Summer Research Scholarship (NSRS) Policy 2021

The BSc Neuroscience program ("the program"), with financial support from the Hotchkiss Brain Institute (HBI), provides Neuroscience Summer Research Scholarships (NSRS) for qualifying BSc Neuroscience students. Intended to nurture your interest in scientific discovery, gain practical research experience and find out first-hand what it is to work as a scientist, these stipends provide (partial) salary support to realize these ambitions.

**Eligibility** - To hold a Neuroscience Summer Research Scholarship and be guaranteed financial support by the program, you must:

1. be registered in the 1st, 2nd or 3rd year of the program and have completed at least 8 hce (i.e., 24 credits) in the two semesters immediately preceding the planned start of your scholarship.
2. not be in your final year of the program at the time of application.
3. continue in the program in the Fall semester following your summer studentship.
4. be in good academic standing at the application deadline. Students must maintain a 3.30 GPA in order to be considered for the Neuroscience Summer Research Scholarship.
5. have completed all the course requirements of at least the first year of university study (or two academic terms) of your bachelor's degree.
6. not hold another scholarship at the start of the award tenure.
7. have applied to at least one other external summer student sponsorship program/competition (i.e., other than the BSc Neuroscience NSRS program) and be able to provide evidence of that application.
8. In addition, your proposed research project must clearly lie within the field of neuroscience and you must have identified a supervisor/principal investigator willing to host you.

Importantly, funds permitting, the Neuroscience Summer Research Scholarship program may be able to (partially) support your summer student experience if you satisfy eligibility criteria 1-6 and 8, but could not apply for external support (i.e., if you do not meet rule 7 above). Funds remaining in the NSRS budget after honoring commitments to applicants meeting rules1-8, will be disbursed to applicants satisfying rules1-6, 8 in order of descending GPA calculated over the last 8 hce immediately preceding the award’s intended start. Please note that whereas we cannot guarantee success in this 2nd phase of the competition, and success rates fluctuate from year to year, the odds of getting support under these conditions are historically quite good. Adjudication of your application will, in this phase, be based on your academic record, research aptitude and expected quality of the training to be received, and will be done by adjudicators invited by the program director. The adjudicators decisions are final and cannot be appealed.

**Tenure and Duration of the awards** – First year students (i.e., students entering their 1st Spring/Summer semesters as BSc. Neuroscience students) qualify for an award of 12 consecutive weeks on a full-time basis. Students in the second and third year of the program are eligible for an award of 16 consecutive weeks on a full-time basis. The awards can be taken up for the Spring and Summer semesters only and are considered as partial renumeration of a full-time position. You can hold a maximum of 3 NSRS
awards throughout your tenure as BSc Neuroscience student. NSRS awards are, in principle, tenable only with University of Calgary – affiliated principle investigators, labs and institutes.

**Value of the award** – The stipend provided by the Neuroscience Summer Research Scholarship is adjusted annually but will amount to $750/student/month for the 2021 spring/summer semester. Supervisors agreeing to host a NSRS-sponsored BSc Neuroscience student must agree to supplement the NSRS-provided stipend to a level no less than NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA) mandated standard of $1,500/month.

**Application process and procedures** – To apply for NSRS-support you must meet the eligibility criteria outlined above. Please note that potential supervisors can be from any faculty, department, or institute affiliated with the University of Calgary, and must be approved as a student supervisor by the University of Calgary. Together, you and your intended supervisor will need to complete a short application form available either online or by request from program administration at bscneuro@ucalgary.ca. Upon receival the program will evaluate your application and decide whether you, your proposed supervisor, and the project you suppose are eligible for program support. You must complete and submit your application by email to bscneuro@ucalgary.ca. The program will communicate the outcome of your application to you and your intended supervisor as soon as the results of external and internal summer studentship conditions are available, and you have informed the program administration office of your results in any of the latter competitions. Failure to do so will forfeit your eligibility for NSRS support.

**Payment of awards** – If awarded, the program will arrange to pay your award through University of Calgary pay procedures. You will be contacted by the program administrative office to make necessary arrangement.