2024 SSHRC Black Scholars Summer
Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA)
Program Guidelines

The Office of Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement (ORSCE) is accepting applications for one (1) SSHRC Black Scholars Summer Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA). The SSHRC USRA is designed to stimulate undergraduate interest in research in the social sciences and humanities.

Program Details

To help address the disproportionate underfunding of Black scholars at the undergraduate level the Tri-Agencies are continuing the **USRA Black student researcher** funding. This funding will contribute to making Canada's research culture more equitable, diverse and inclusive; and will strengthen Canada's innovation potential. Applicants must meet the agency's program eligibility criteria**.**

Supervisors must be full-time tenurable or tenured Mount Royal University faculty at the time of application and currently hold a major SSHRC grant. Supervisors may only submit one application.

The duration of the award is 14-16 consecutive weeks on a **full time basis** (35 hours a week). There is no possibility of extension beyond the May -August award period.

SSHRC USRA awards must comply with provincial and/or federal employment standards and meet provincial minimum wage requirements. Awardees will be hired as Research Assistants.

The value of the award will vary based on the duration of the award. The below award calculation is approximate and based on Alberta's $17/hr wage.   The Provost's Office will provide the institutional contribution.

Duration (35 hrs/wk)	Award Total (Wages & Benefits)	SSHRC Max Contribution	Institutional Contribution
14 consecutive weeks	$9,700	$6,000	$3,700
15 consecutive weeks	$10,500	$6,000	$4,500
16 consecutive weeks	$11,200	$6,000	$5,200

Application Deadline: **noon March 1st, 2024** (application must be submitted, with transcripts, through the NSERC portal)

Please contact the Office of Research, Scholarship and Community Engagement (ORSCE) for all inquiries related to the program. **Please do not apply to SSHRC directly.**

How to apply

1. Supervisor or student identify each other and a project that they wish to undertake. **Due to the limited allocation**, **Supervisors must currently hold a major SSHRC grant and may only submit one application.**

2. Student and supervisor complete and submit Form 202 parts 1 and 2 through the NSERC Online Portal by the deadline – **noon March 1, 2024.**
    - Details on this program and how to apply can be found here: http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students- Etudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC_eng.asp

3. Supervisors and students must submit a *SSHRC Black Scholars USRA Supplementary Application* through ROMEO by the deadline **noon March 1, 2024**
    - The review criteria is as follows:
        - 50% academic excellence
        - 25% research potential
        - 25% expected quality of the training and mentorship

Things to remember

- Student applicants will require registrar-issued transcripts (non-official but issued by registrar is acceptable) from all undergraduate institutions attended – order these early.

    Still have questions? Please contact mdeane1@mtroyal.ca for further assistance.