

CPS Departmental Application Process for Undergraduate Research Awards

The following outlines the application process for the NSERC USRA, UTEA, and LEAP research awards with the Department of Chemicals & Physical Sciences. **Only one application is required** and your application will be put forward for all applicable awards. For full award descriptions, please visit [our website](#).

Step 1: Eligibility

You are eligible to apply if all of the following applies to you:

- Registered either full-time or part-time at the time of application;
- CGPA of at least B- or better.

For NSERC USRA:

- You are a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada.

Important Note for UTEA and LEAP awards: While only Canadian citizens and permanent residents are eligible for NSERC USRA, we encourage non-residents to apply as well as you may be eligible for the University of Toronto Excellence Award (UTEA), a very similar U of T fellowship without the citizenship/ permanent residency requirement, or the CPS Science Leadership Equity Advancement Program (LEAP) Scholar Award.

Step 2: Propose Supervisor Choices

You are **required** to list two supervisor that you wish to work with, ranking them as your first and second choice. You need to talk to your first choice of supervisor before you put their name down, and you are strongly encouraged to also talk to your second choice supervisor.

If you only provide one choice, your application will be disqualified. You are strongly encouraged to select professors in different CPS disciplines (astronomy, chemistry, earth science, and physics).

A list of eligible supervisors can be found on [our website](#).

Step 3: Submit Your Informal Statement of Interest

The following documents must be emailed (PDF or Word format) to the CPS Undergraduate Administrative Assistant, Eliza Escandar, at cpsug.utm@utoronto.ca:

- a) A page titled, "Application for an NSERC USRA with CPS" with your name, institution, student number, and your first and second choices for your supervisor (professors in CPS). If applicable, state your indigenous or non-residency status.

Note 1: Your supervisor is selected from your two listed choices by the Awards Committee.

Note 2: Regarding the Science LEAP Scholar Award – you must include a one paragraph justification statement for why you wish to be considered for the Science LEAP Scholar Award.

- b) You are strongly encouraged to include a CV or resume, especially if you have science-related extracurricular experiences or previous research experiences.