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2024 NSERC USRA & ENURA Information Session

Phoebe Chan & Stuart Macgregor

Research Officers
Faculty of Science

What is a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (**NSERC**) Undergraduate Student Research Award (**USRA**)?

- NSERC USRAs offer undergraduate students the opportunity to gain hands-on research experience under the supervision of one of York's faculty members
- These awards are meant to stimulate your interest in the **natural sciences and engineering disciplines** and encourage you to pursue graduate school and/or research-related industry careers



What is a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (**NSERC**) Undergraduate Student Research Award (**USRA**)?

Amount & duration:

- \$9,268 stipend over a CONSECUTIVE 16-week period
(April 29th 2024 to August 16th 2024)
 - \$6,000 from NSERC
 - \$3,268 from your Supervisor



Application Deadline for Students:

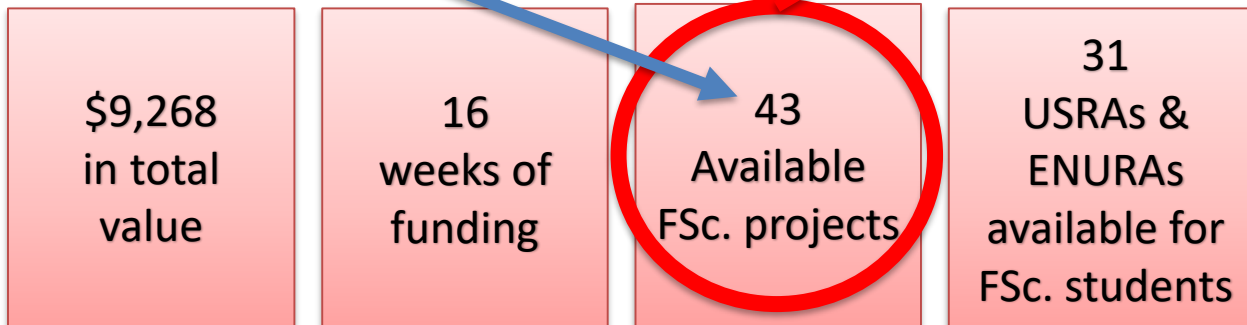
- Faculty of Science: **February 29th 2024**

NSERC USRAs vs. FSc. ENURAs

- In addition to the USRAs, FSc. will be providing 12 additional awards made possible in part through a generous donation from FSc. Alumnus, Earle Nestmann. These are known as the Earle Nestmann Undergraduate Research Awards (ENURAs).
- ENURAs are for FSc majors students with FSc supervisors **ONLY**. Check with your Faculty to see if they have an equivalent award (i.e. LURAs, DURAs.)

This number is subject to change, check website below for latest update
As at 10:00 a.m., Feb 6, 2024

*** Not limited to professors/projects on list**



FSc NSERC USRA and ENURA Website:

<https://www.yorku.ca/science/research/usra-summer-2024/>

NSERC vs CIHR: Which one to choose?

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) USRAs

- Must be primarily research in the natural sciences and engineering.

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) USRAs

- Must be primarily research to improve or have an impact on health and/or produce more effective health services and products and/or strengthen the Canadian health care system.



LASSONDE
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

2024 Lasonde LURA & NSERC USRA Competition

Applications
due by

Thursday February 15, 2024
***Will need supervisor to sign an endorsement form**

Info session &
drop-ins
(via Zoom)

February 7, 2024, 6:00 – 7:00pm
Meeting ID: 996 0563 4950; Passcode: 935846
February 13, 2024, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Meeting ID: 936 4346 3976; Passcode: 177066

Learn more

<https://lassonde.yorku.ca/research/lura-and-usra-research-at-lassonde>

Contact

resday@yorku.ca

Gain summer research
experience working at a
Lasonde professor's lab!

- 4-month summer internship
- Up to \$10,000 in funding
- Over 60 positions available
- Eligible for co-op
- LURA is open to international students



Science Students in various subject areas such as Biology, Physics, and Chemistry have been successful in LURA

Faculty of Health (FoH)

2024 Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA)

Three different categories of USRA will be offered and numbers available to be awarded:

- NSERC (7 awards)
- SSHRC (1 award – *only individuals who identify as Black Scholars can apply*)
- Dean’s Undergraduate Research Award (DURA) (max. 5 awards – must undertake research in SSHRC and CIHR mandate areas. Priority will be given to individuals who identify as Black or Indigenous Scholars and

ITEMS	DEADLINES
Information and Q & A Session (hosted by Faculty of Science)	February 6, 2024
NSERC USRA submission to Schools/Depts	Noon, Monday, March 11, 2024
SSHRC USRA and DURA must be submitted to hlthrsch@yorku.ca (Faculty of Health Research Support Office)	Noon, Monday, March 11, 2024
Award Notification for NSERC, SSHRC and DURA	Monday, April 8, 2024
Deadline for student to accept award	Thursday, April 11, 2024

USRA Supplements

- **USRA supplement: Canadian Forest Sector Workforce Diversity undergraduate supplements**

Value

- \$5,000 supplement to active USRA recipients
- Up to 30 available per year

Objectives

- Promote research opportunities and encourage postgraduate studies in areas of relevance to Natural Resources Canada – Canadian Forest Sector (CFS)
- To encourage diversity in the forest sector workforce, award priority is given to individuals from underrepresented groups in the forest sector workforce

Application requirements

- Applications are automatically considered by NSERC if the proposed project falls within the research areas of relevance to Natural Resources Canada – Canadian Forest Sector

USRA Supplements

- **USRA supplement: ECCC Atmospheric and Meteorological undergraduate supplements**

Value

- \$1,000 supplement to active USRA recipients
- Up to 20 available per year

Objectives

- Stimulate research in the atmospheric and meteorological sciences in Canadian universities
- Encourage and support students to carry out research of interest to Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
- Promote training of potential candidates for possible future graduate studies in the atmospheric and meteorological sciences and possible future employment at ECCC

Application requirements

- USRA holders must apply directly to ECCC by August 1 of the summer they hold the award
 - If an award is held in the Fall or Winter, those students can apply the summer after they hold their award

Black Student Researchers

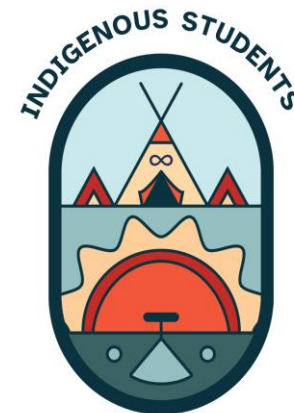
- Black applicants (self-identified) who meet eligibility requirements will be recommended for an award
- **For NSERC**: Institutions may recommend applications from self-identified black student researchers for USRAs beyond their allocation of awards

**Funding to support
Black student
researchers at the
undergraduate level**



Indigenous Student Researchers

- Indigenous applicants (self-identified) who meet eligibility requirements will be recommended for an award
- **For NSERC**: Institutions may recommend applications from self-identified Indigenous student researchers for USRAs beyond their allocation of awards



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How to Self-Identify (NSERC)

Step 1:

- Navigate to the NSERC homepage
- Click on Login
- Select On-line System

The screenshot shows the NSERC homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Government of Canada logo and the text "Government of Canada" and "Gouvernement du Canada". To the right, it says "Canada.ca | Services | Departments | Français". Below this is a blue banner with the text "Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada" and the "Canada" logo. A search bar is located on the right side of the banner. Below the banner is a navigation menu with links for "Students and Fellows", "Professors", "Colleges", "Information for", and "About". The main content area features the text "NSERC" and "Breakthrough answers to timeless questions". A "What we do" button is visible. On the right side, there is a list of services: "On-line System", "FDSR System", "Research Portal", and "Convergence Portal". The "On-line System" link is circled in red, and the "Login" button is also circled in red.

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Canada.ca | Services | Departments | Français

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

Canada

Search

Students and Fellows | Professors | Colleges | Information for | About

Home

NSERC

Breakthrough answers to timeless questions

What we do

On-line System >
Login to create or access an application.

FDSR System >
The Financial Data Submission and Reconciliation (FDSR) System is for academic institution officials who electronically transmit their annual financial data.

Research Portal >
Login to create or access an application.

Convergence Portal >
Login to create or access an application.

How to Self-Identify (NSERC)

Step 2:

- Scroll to the bottom of the page
- Click on On-line System Login

On-line System Users

Select **On-line System Login** to create or access an application.

- ▶ First-Time User? Please [Register](#)
- ▶ [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- ▶ [Forms in PDF Format and Instructions](#)



On-line System Login

Financial Data Submission and Reconciliation

The Financial Data Submission and Reconciliation (FDSR) System is for academic institution officials who electronically transmit their annual financial data.

FDSR System Login

Date Modified: 2021-12-06

[^ Top of Page ^](#)

[Important Notices](#)

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How to Self-Identify (NSERC)

Step 3:

- Login and click submit

[Login >](#)

Main Menu
Logout
Proactive Disclosure
Proactive Disclosure

Login

Note: NSERC's online system has been updated to a new look and feel. Functionality is the same, but you will notice some slight changes in the presentation of most pages. For example, some instructions are now collapsible.

Security, Privacy and Use and Disclosure of Information

Before using NSERC's online system, please read the following documents and register your acceptance below:

- NSERC's [Security Statement](#) and details on the retention periods of the data;
- NSERC's statement on the federal [Access to Information Act and Privacy Act](#);
- For applicants and co-applicants: [Use and Disclosure of Personal Information Provided to NSERC](#); and
- For Referees: [Instructions to Referees on the Privacy Act, Confidentiality and the Use and Disclosure of Information](#).

When you login and use this system, it means that you understand and accept that these policies and conditions apply.

You will be automatically logged out of the system if there has not been any activity (e.g., Save, Preview, etc.) for an extended period of time. To avoid having to login again, we recommend that you select **Save** every 10 to 15 minutes.

Account name (User ID) (30 chars)
[Forgot your Account name?](#)

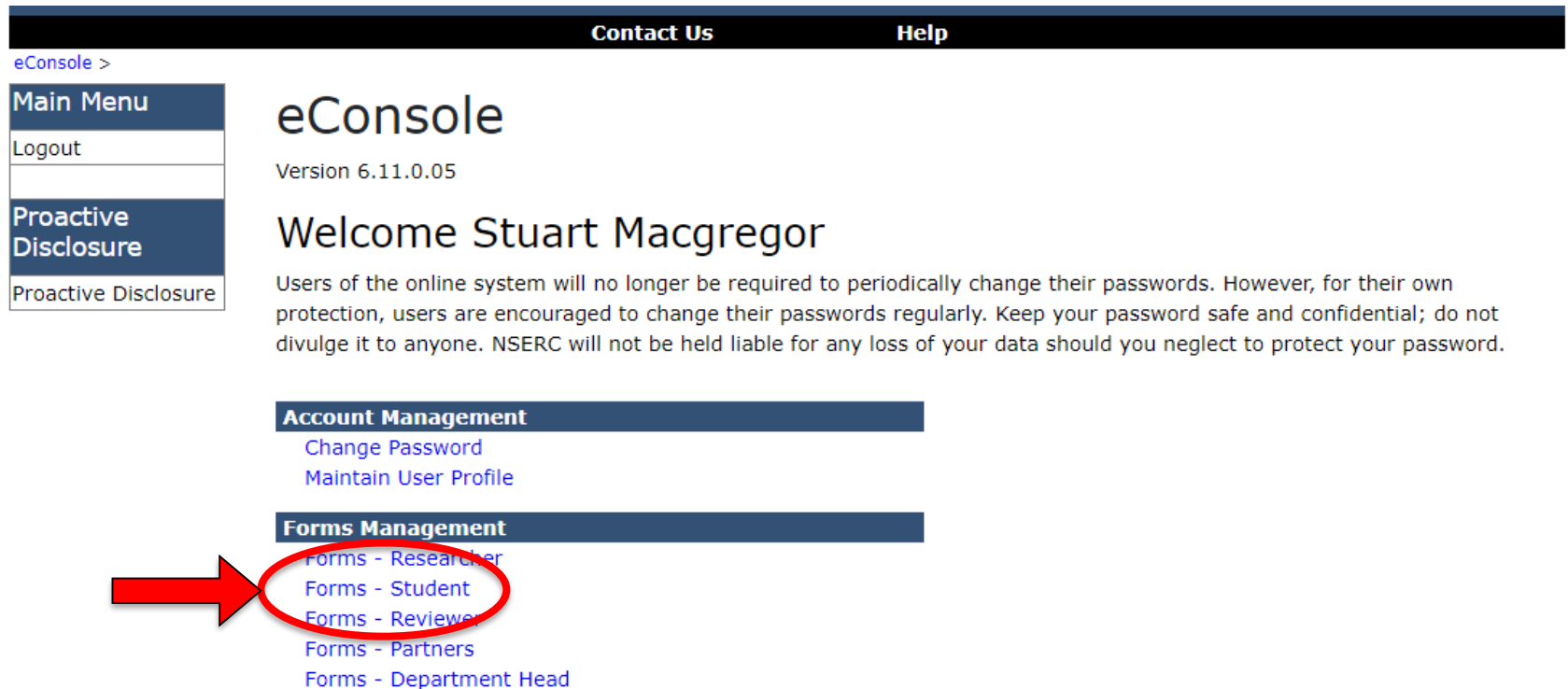
Password (10 chars)
[Forgot your Password?](#)

Must be **8-10 characters long, must contain at least one special character (!@#\$%^&*()_+{}|~>_-[]/?)** and **no spaces**, may contain numbers (0-9), lower and upper case letters (a-z, A-Z). Please note that your password is case sensitive.

How to Self-Identify (NSERC)

Step 4:

- Select “Forms – Student” under Forms Management



The screenshot displays the eConsole interface. At the top, there are navigation links for "Contact Us" and "Help". Below this, the user is logged in as "Stuart Macgregor". The main content area is divided into sections: "Account Management" (Change Password, Maintain User Profile) and "Forms Management" (Forms - Researcher, Forms - Student, Forms - Reviewer, Forms - Partners, Forms - Department Head). A red arrow points to the "Forms - Student" option, which is also circled in red.

[eConsole >](#)

Main Menu

- [Logout](#)

Proactive Disclosure

- [Proactive Disclosure](#)

eConsole

Version 6.11.0.05

Welcome Stuart Macgregor

Users of the online system will no longer be required to periodically change their passwords. However, for their own protection, users are encouraged to change their passwords regularly. Keep your password safe and confidential; do not divulge it to anyone. NSERC will not be held liable for any loss of your data should you neglect to protect your password.

Account Management

- [Change Password](#)
- [Maintain User Profile](#)

Forms Management

- [Forms - Researcher](#)
- [Forms - Student](#)
- [Forms - Reviewer](#)
- [Forms - Partners](#)
- [Forms - Department Head](#)

How to Self-Identify (NSERC)

Step 5

- Click on the drop down menu – “Select form to be created”
- Chose form 202 – Part I
- Click “Create”

 Natural Sciences and Engineering
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences
naturelles et en génie du Canada

Canada


NSERC

www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca

Contact Us

Help

eConsole

Portfolio

Logout

Portfolio >

▸ Applications

Applicants interested in applying for support at the master's level should refer to the [CGS M Program description](#).

Select form to be created ▾
Select form to be created
CGS - Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplements
Form 201 - (PGS D & PDF)
Form 202 Part I - Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA)

Create

Logout

Page ^


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How to Self-Identify (NSERC)

Step 7

- Click on "Personal Profile"



The screenshot shows the NSERC application profile form. The header includes the NSERC logo and website address. The main navigation bar contains links for Save, Preview, Portfolio, Instructions, and Logout. The left sidebar lists various form sections, with 'Personal Profile' circled in red and a red arrow pointing to it. The main content area displays the title 'Form 202 Part I - Application Profile' and several questions with radio button options.

Application Profile >

Form

- Application Profile
- Personal Profile
- Addresses
- Academic Background
- Awards
- Transcripts

NSERC
www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca

Contact Us Help

Save Preview Portfolio Instructions Logout

Form 202 Part I - Application Profile

Program Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA)

Application language English French

At the time of application, you are attending a postsecondary institution? Full time? Part time?

Have you ever held a USRA or Experience Award (previously IUSRA) in the past? Yes No

Select the agency whose mandate best aligns with your field of research.

CIHR NSERC SSHRC

Save Preview Portfolio Instructions Logout

Date Modified: 2023/01/19 [^ Top of Page ^](#) [Important Notices](#)

How to Self-Identify (NSERC)

Step 8

- Follow on screen prompts to self-identify

Self-identification statement:

Please note: Answers to the self-identification statement are not seen or used during the review process or by proposed research supervisors.

Statement 1: Indigenous applicants

For NSERC, Indigenous applicants may be considered above the institution's USRA application limit.

For the purposes outlined above, do you disclose that your self-identity is Indigenous, and that you acknowledge that this information may be shared with the institution that you are applying to?

- Yes
 No / I do not self-identify as Indigenous / I am applying to CIHR or SSHRC

Statement 2: Black applicants

For NSERC, Black applicants may be considered above the institution's USRA application limit.

For SSHRC and CIHR, USRAs are exclusively for Black students. Applicants are hereby disclosing that they self-identify as Black and understand that this information will be shared with the institution to which they are applying and, if awarded, publicly.

For the purposes outlined above, do you disclose that you self-identify as Black and understand that this information may be shared as described above?

- Yes
 No / I do not self-identify as Black

What languages do you:

Read English French

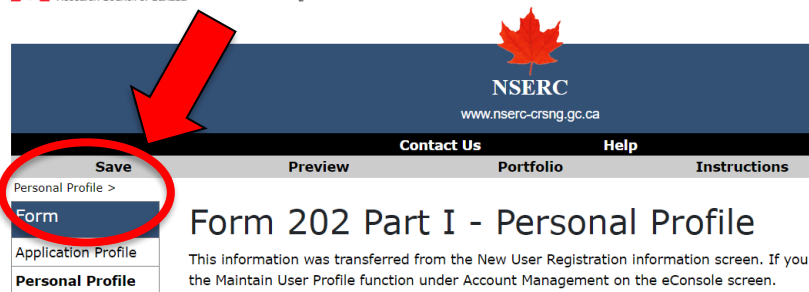
Write English French

Step 9

- Click "Save"
- Logout

 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada



NSERC
www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca

Contact Us Help

Save Preview Portfolio Instructions

Personal Profile >
Form
Application Profile
Personal Profile

Form 202 Part I - Personal Profile

This information was transferred from the New User Registration information screen. If you ne the Maintain User Profile function under Account Management on the eConsole screen.

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Eligibility: *Students*



In order to apply, you must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- You are a **Canadian citizen** or **Permanent Resident** of Canada
- You are **registered** (at the time you apply) in a bachelor's degree program at an eligible university
- You have obtained, over the previous year(s) of study, a cumulative average of at least **"B"**. Please note, these awards are ***extremely competitive***
- **At the start of the award**, you have completed the requirements for your first year of university study (two academic terms)

Eligibility: *Students*



You are **NOT** eligible if:

- You have previously received a total of **three** NSERC USRAs
- You are currently enrolled in an undergraduate professional degree program in the health sciences (e.g., MD, DDS, BScN)

Does not apply for CIHR USRA

Eligibility: *Students*



International students are eligible for ENURA only

- You **MUST** Check off “**Canadian citizen**” to access Form 202 on the NSERC portal
- Indicate international student status in FSc **MachForm** submission (via FSc website)

MachForm

Summer 2024 NSERC USRA & ENURA applications
Faculty of Science

Student name *

First Last

Student email *

York student number

International student *

Yes

No

Department *

University currently attending (non York student)

Criteria

Applications are assessed by each department according to:

- **Transcript (60%)**
- **Research Interest Statement (30%)**
- **Quality of the Training Environment (10%)**

Research Interest Statement:

Research Interest Statement - **STUDENTS**

(1 page, 12pt Times New Roman, 1 inch margins)

- Describe your research interests (ex. in chosen area)
- What relevant research experience do you have (lab or course related) that will support this award?
- What skillsets and knowledge do you hope to gain from the USRA experience?
- How will this award support your future career goals?

Training Plan

Training Plan - **PROFESSORS**

(1 page, 12pt Times New Roman, 1 inch margins)

- Describe a specific, detailed research proposal (max. 1800 characters)
- Provide a description of student's role (max. 500 characters)
- The training plan should describe the type and extent of supervision, activities the student will participate in, and the skills they will gain
- Describe EDI considerations in research design if applicable
- Indicate if you have sufficient funds to support your portion of the student's stipend and consumable costs.
- Research subject code must be chosen from this [list](#)
- **Maximum number of students per supervisor is 2**

How to apply:

***Only ONE application for USRA (NSERC/CIHR), ENURA**

- Students must identify a supervisor who is willing to support their application → [Browse Projects](#)

Form 202 MUST be completed using NSERC's online system

- **Part I:** completed by the **STUDENT**
- **Part II:** completed by the **SUPERVISOR**

How to apply: Form 202 (Parts I & II)



NSERC
www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca

Contact Us Help
Portfolio Instructions Logout

Application Profile >

Form

Application Profile

Personal Profile

Addresses

Academic Background

Awards

Transcripts

Form 202 Part I - Application Profile

Program Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA)

Application language English French

At the time of application, you are attending a postsecondary institution? Full time? Part time?


Have you ever held a USRA or Experience Award (previously IUSRA) in the past? Yes No

Select the agency whose mandate best aligns with your field of research.

CIHR NSERC SSHRC


- Once you have completed Form 202 Part I, **SAVE** your progress and click **PREVIEW** to generate a PDF to send to your Supervisor

How to apply: Form 202 (Parts I & II)

 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada / Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada

FORM 202 - PART I
Application for an Undergraduate Student Research Award

System-ID: _____
Date: _____

Reference No. 

Given name: _____ Initial(s) of all given names: _____ Personal Identification no. (PIN): _____

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND (including ongoing postsecondary degree)

Degree	Name of discipline	Institution	Department	Year and month of expected degree completion

At the time of application, are you attending university?
 full time? part time? Have you ever held a USRA in the past?
 Yes No

SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER AWARDS RECEIVED (start with most recent and include NSERC awards)

Name of award	Location of tenure	Period held (yyyy/mm - yyyy/mm)

OTHER INFORMATION

Citizenship: Canadian citizen Permanent resident (indicate date of landing as stated on official immigration document) _____

Language of correspondence: English


Current address: _____ (address)

If current address is temporary: _____

Telephone number at current address: _____

Completed by the student

Form 202-I (2011) Personal information collected on this form and appendices will be stored in the Personal Information Bank for the appropriate program. Version française disponible
PROTECTED WHEN COMPLETED

 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada / Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie du Canada

FORM 202 - PART II
Application for an Undergraduate Student Research Award in University

System ID: _____
Date: _____

In accordance with the Privacy Act, this information will be accessible to the student. Read the instructions before you complete this application.

Family name of student/Reference No. _____ Given name _____ Initial(s) of all given names _____

Name and title of proposed supervisor _____ E-mail of proposed supervisor _____

Institution/Organization that will administer the award _____ Department _____

Grant application no. (proposed supervisor) _____ Personal identification no. (PIN) (proposed supervisor) _____

Address at location of tenure _____ Telephone _____
Fax _____

PROPOSED RESEARCH PROJECT

Title of proposed research project _____ Research subject code _____

Outline of proposed research project _____

Completed by the supervisor

Form 202-II (2011) Personal information collected on this form and appendices will be stored in the Personal Information Bank for the appropriate program. Version française disponible
PROTECTED WHEN COMPLETED

- The 'Reference Number' must be forwarded to your supervisor

How to apply:

- **FSc Applicants ONLY:** Once Form 202 Parts I and II are completed, an **electronic copy of everything must be uploaded to an internal FSc MachForm** through the **FSC website**

At this stage:

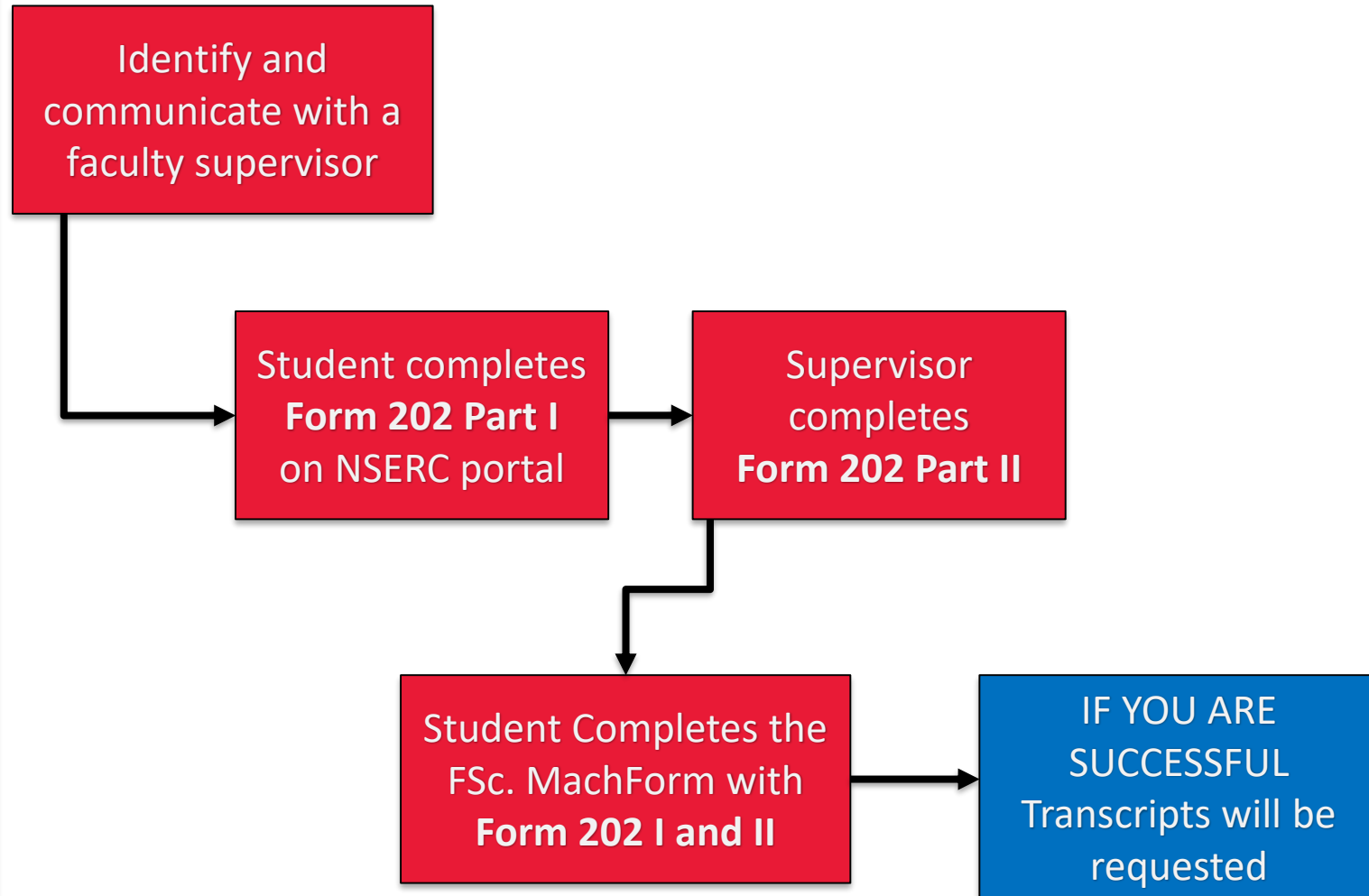
- **PLEASE DO NOT** SUBMIT your application through the **NSERC Online Portal**.
- **PLEASE DO NOT** upload your transcript(s).

IF your application is successful, we will contact you in April with further instructions on how to upload your transcripts.

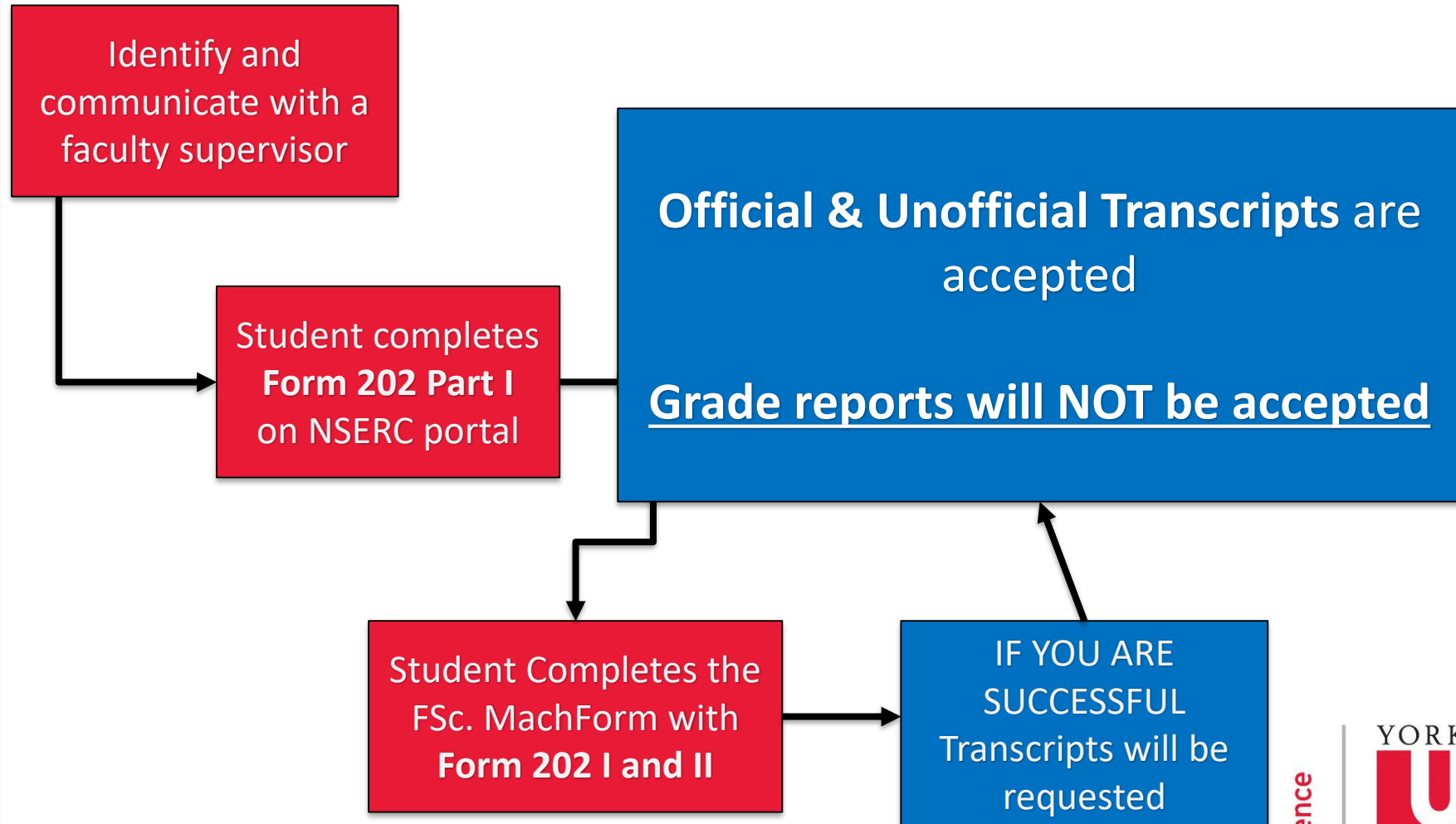
.....
Please check with the other Faculties/Institutions to confirm their internal deadline

FSc deadline: February 29, 2024

Application procedure



Application procedure



Grade Reports are **NOT** accepted

1/31/24, 2:11 PM Student Document Services

List of Courses and Grades

NAME
ADDRESS

[Update Address](#)

This is not an official transcript.

Session	Course	Title	Grade
FW	SC BIOL 4000 8.00 A	Honors Thesis	
FW	SC BIOL 4005 3.00 M	Scientific Method Controversies	
FW	SC BIOL 4041 3.00 A	Current Topics and Methods in Cell Biol	
FW	SC BIOL 4050 3.00 A	Cellular Regulation	
FW	SC BIOL 4054 3.00 M	The Human Microbiome	
FW	SC BIOL 4070 3.00 B	Integrative Reproduction	
FW	SC BIOL 4085 3.00 M	Human Molecular Genetics	
FW	SC BIOL 4090 4.00 A	Biotechnology	
FW	AP MODR 760 6.00	Reasoning About Morality and Values	
FW	HH KINE 2031 3.00 B	Human Anatomy	
FW	SC BIOL 3070 3.00 M	Advanced Biochemistry	
FW	SC BIOL 3051 3.00 A	Macromolecules of Biochemical Interest	
FW	SC BIOL 3075 3.00 M	Intro. to Drug Discovery and Development	
FW	SC BIOL 3110 3.00 A	Molec.Biol.I: Nucleic Acid Metabolism	
FW	SC BIOL 3120 3.00 A	Immunobiology	

The Decision Process

- Each **department** ranks the USRA applications they receive.
 - See next slide, “The Ranking Process” for details
- Successful applicants will be notified in **early/mid April, 2024**
- **Indigenous and/or Black student applicants with a “B” GPA and supervisor are recommended to NSERC and not included in the University quota of awards.**

The Ranking Process (by Departmental Committee)

60% GPA

30% Research Aptitude

10% Quality of Training

GPA (60%) - Transcript

- Cumulative GPA out of 9

Research Aptitude (30%) – Research Interest Statement

- Why is the student interested in the USRA/ENURA?
- What relevant research related experience will support this award, if applicable?
- How will this award support their future career goals?

Quality of Training (10%) – Training Plan

- Is the proposed research program well defined and appropriate for an undergraduate student?
- What mentoring or training plans are in place to ensure the success and enhanced learning of the student?

Important Links

- NSERC's USRA website:
https://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/students-etudiants/ug-pc/usra-brpc_eng.asp
- NSERC registration:
https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_register_e.htm
- NSERC's on-line system:
https://ebiz.nserc.ca/nserc_web/nserc_login_e.htm
- Form 202 Instructions:
<http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/OnlineServices-ServicesEnLigne/instructions/202/e.asp>

Where to go for assistance

- Your proposed supervisor
- The Departmental office to which you are applying
- Your Faculty Research Office
- Technical Issues: **NSERC Support**
 - Email: usra-brpc@nserc-crsng.gc.ca
 - Phone: 613-947-0428 (general questions)
or
613-995-4273
(problems with the on-line system)

Where to go for assistance, cont'd.

- *FSc Research Services, Faculty of Science (FSc)*
Phoebe Chan & Stuart Macgregor (Research Officers)
Email: sciapps@yorku.ca
- *Lassonde School of Engineering (LE)*
Research/Awards Officers
Email: resday@yorku.ca
- *The Faculty of Health (HH and Glendon)*
Gabriella diLorenzo (Administrative Secretary)
Email: hlthrsch@yorku.ca
- *The Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies (LA&PS)*
Beatriz Franco-Arellano (Grant Development Specialist)
Email: bfrancoa@yorku.ca
- *The Faculty of Environmental and Urban Change (EUC)*
Rhoda Reyes (Research Officer)
Email: rreyes@yorku.ca
- *Schulich School of Business (SB)*
Farhana Shumu Islam (Research Officer)
Email: fsislam@schulich.yorku.ca

Questions