UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH URCA AWARDS: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE FORMAT AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION? DO I HAVE TO SUBMIT LETTERS?
URCA Award forms are included in the online URCA application. The deadline is 5 p.m. on the last Friday of September and the last Friday of January. Students should have prepared a narrative and a budget justification in collaboration with a mentor before beginning their application, as described in the URCA Awards Application Instructions. No reference forms are required; submitted applications will be sent via email for mentor approval.

I HAVE RECEIVED AN URCA AWARD LAST YEAR. CAN I APPLY AGAIN?
We are accepting applications from those who have received an award previously. However, we will check to make sure that you have submitted a report and complied with the presentation requirement for the past award before we consider your application.

HOW MUCH MONEY CAN I GET?
The maximum award is $1,500, or $2,000 for Honors College students. There is a minimum stipend amount of $1,500 and maximum of $1,000 per semester or $2,000 for the summer. If a stipend is requested, that will take up part of the $2,000 budget.

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT MY CATEGORY IS? WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?
Most categories are clear, however, some are not as clear. For example, nursing is usually not Biomedical, but Social Science. Some Biology proposals are Biomedical while others are STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). You could discuss with your mentor or talk to Director of Undergraduate Research Dr. Mary Farwell for clarification. It is important because the proposals are reviewed by discipline-specific reviewers.

HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT MY APPLICATION IS COMPLETE?
You will get a message at the end of the survey that says that the application is complete. You should also have the mentor send the reference form by the same day. As long as all forms are received before 5 p.m. on the deadline day, your application is complete.

THERE IS NOT ENOUGH SPACE TO EXPLAIN MY WHOLE PROJECT - WHY CAN’T I ADD MORE WORDS OR PAGES TO THE APPLICATION?
All applications are electronically reviewed by the URCA committee. We have chosen 3,000 characters with spaces as the limit. It is not fair to all for applications to have multiple files attached. Conciseness is recommended. Therefore, any extra materials that are submitted will be deleted. Those that are too long will not be reviewed.