

College of Science and Engineering Technology Undergraduate Research Awards

The College of Science and Engineering Technology announces undergraduate research funding opportunities for spring and summer. These awards have been modeled after the EURECA summer FAST grant, with some modifications. The spring funding opportunity has an application deadline of **November 1**, while the summer funding opportunity has an application deadline of **March 1**.

Eligibility:

All faculty are eligible to apply for the COSET Undergraduate Research Award. Full-time undergraduate students enrolled at SHSU during the spring semester are eligible to be team members. However, students graduating in spring are eligible for the spring award only. Faculty mentors may submit only one proposal. At least six proposals are expected to be funded.

Faculty who have applied for a summer EURECA FAST grant are ineligible to apply for a spring COSET award for the same project, but are encouraged to apply for the summer COSET award if not funded by EURECA. If a faculty member would like to submit a proposal for a different project (with different student team members) compared to one submitted for the EURECA FAST award, they are eligible for either the spring or summer COSET award. Prior submission of a EURECA FAST proposal is not required to be eligible for a COSET award. Faculty members not funded for the spring COSET award may resubmit for the summer COSET award.

Note – All Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) protocols must be completed before funds will be distributed. IRB and IACUC guidelines are available on the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs website at <http://www.shsu.edu/dept/office-of-research-and-sponsored-programs/>.

Funding:

Each student team member (up to two student team members maximum) will receive \$2000 for participating in the project. Faculty member will receive a total of \$1000 for mentoring in the project (up to two faculty members maximum and receive \$500 per faculty member). Up to \$500 per proposal is also available to fund student research supplies and travel to field sites or laboratories. Funding is not available for travel to conferences or for faculty stipends. Funding must be spent no later than August 31.

Selection:

Awards to conduct research projects will be granted by a competitive selection process. The COSET Undergraduate Research Committee, an interdisciplinary committee comprised of faculty from each COSET department, will evaluate and prioritize proposals for funding based on the following criteria:

- design and feasibility of the project's
- significance of the expected results to the faculty member's
- potential contributions the project will make to the students' future studies and/or future
- level and type of student involvement in the project. Outstanding proposals will have clearly delineated roles for each student member of the team, will strongly emphasize what the student team members will gain from this experience, and will clearly outline which aspects of the project each team member can lay claim to as their contribution

For the spring award, faculty members will be notified of a decision no later than December 1. For the summer award, faculty members will be notified of a decision no later than April 1.

Outcomes:

Each awarded research team is required to submit a final report to COSET that includes:

- a one-page PDF document written by the faculty mentor(s) that briefly describes the progress and findings/results of their funded project
- a one-page reflection report from each student member outlining his or her role in the project and the project's impact on his or her professional development

The final report is due by October 15. Failure to submit the report by the deadline may result in the faculty member and students being ineligible for future COSET research funding.

In addition, student researchers are strongly encouraged to present the findings of their research at the SHSU Undergraduate Research Symposium, as well as at state, national, or international conferences.

Application Process:

Completed applications are **due by 5:00 pm** on the day of the deadline, and must include the following:

1. A cover page ([attached](#); can also be obtained by emailing coset@shsu.edu)
2. A **two- to three-page** proposal, written in an interdisciplinary style, that:
 - describes the project's objectives, methods/approach to be used, and expected outcomes for the project
 - describes any follow-up activities to be completed in the fall and spring semesters
 - indicates whether this is a new project, or part of an ongoing project
 - explains the significance of the expected results
 - uses a font no smaller than 11-pt and has 1" margins
3. A works cited page (as needed) (does not count toward the three-page limit)
4. Student information forms for each student team member ([attached](#); can also be obtained by emailing lester@shsu.edu)
5. Budget form (as needed) ([attached](#); can also be obtained by emailing lester@shsu.edu)
6. A statement of interest written by each student team member (<200 words)

These documents must be merged into a single PDF file and sent by email to Dr. Lester, Li-Jen lester@shsu.edu, with COSET Undergraduate Research Award in the subject line, by 5:00 pm on the day of the application deadline.