

## CONCORDIA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS FAQs

### GENERAL

#### **Can the CUSRA be held on a part-time basis or a full-time basis?**

Since the CUSRA covers a 16-week work period, the work must be completed on a full time basis.

#### **Can a CUSRA be held by a team instead of an individual?**

No - the CUSRA has a stipend attached to it, which is intended for one person. Each award can only be held by one individual.

#### **How many CUSRAs can a student hold while enrolled in a program at Concordia?**

A student can hold a maximum of two awards during their undergraduate studies at Concordia.

#### **Can a research project be completed off campus?**

All research work must be completed on campus unless the project involves field research that is actively supervised by the faculty member or a member of his/her research team.

#### **Can a CUSRA be terminated if a student is not carrying out the proposed research, or has been absent?**

Yes - a student's CUSRA may be terminated, as well as the funds attached to the award. However, it is expected that if there are problems with the attendance or deliverables, the supervisor will notify the student and attempt to resolve any problems. In cases where resolution has not been possible, the Office of the Vice-President Research and Graduate Studies must be informed and will investigate independently before any additional action is taken.

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**Can a student apply to both the CUSRA and the NSERC USRA competitions?**

Yes - but if awarded both, the student must select only one award.

**Can a student enrolled in a Co-Op program use the CUSRA as a Co-Op work term?**

Yes - the CUSRA can be used once as a Co-Op work term.

**Where can I find additional information about how to apply, or if I have questions or concerns while I hold or supervise an award?**

The main point of contact is Cinzia Miscio, Manager, Administrative Operations, in the Office of the Vice-President Research and Graduate Studies. Cinzia may be reached at 848-2424 x 5874 and [cinzia.miscio@concordia.ca](mailto:cinzia.miscio@concordia.ca).

## ELIGIBILITY

**How are CUSRA Faculty quotas determined?**

The number of awards allotted to each Faculty is based on the proportion of undergraduate student enrollment in that Faculty compared to undergraduate enrollment at the university as a whole. Up to 10 awards will be made to program students who are enrolled on a part-time basis.

**Are international students eligible to apply?**

Yes - provided they meet eligibility criteria, and provided they are legally eligible to work in Canada.

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### **Can students be enrolled in courses during the tenure of the CUSRA?**

Students may be enrolled in a **maximum of 1** course during the tenure of the award

### **Must students have completed the minimum credits required by the time of application, or can the minimum credits be completed by the end of the Spring term (just preceding the CUSRA Summer awards)?**

Students completing the minimum credit requirement by the end of the Spring term (immediately preceding the Summer CUSRA session) will be eligible to apply. However, if awarded a CUSRA, the award will be conditional upon the successful completion of the minimum required credits.

### **Can a student whose GPA is slightly under the 3.3 requirement wait to submit the GPA from the semester immediately preceding the CUSRA term if they think it will increase as a result of the newly completed courses?**

No - the GPA that will be considered will be the one that appears on the transcript at the time of application.

## SUPERVISORS

### **Must supervisors be on site while their students hold a CUSRA award?**

Supervisors are expected to meet regularly with the students to ensure that the research is progressing as planned. This program thus excludes supervisors who will be away from campus on sabbatical, or for more than two weeks during the 16-week period.



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**Can a student carry out research work that is not directly related to a supervisor's own research work?**

Yes - with the agreement of the supervisor, a student may propose to complete research in a topic of interest to them.

**Can one professor supervise more than one student holding a CUSRA?**

Yes - a supervisor can supervise up to a maximum of 3 CUSRA recipients, but the supervisor must ensure that he/she is able to provide the necessary supervision, and any material support students may need.

### ETHICS AND SAFETY

**Do research projects involving the use of animals or humans involve ethics certification/approval?**

Yes - absolutely! Any research project that involves the use of animals or humans must have ethics approval. For more information please see:

<http://www.concordia.ca/research/for-researchers/ethics/html#tab1>

**My research involves use of chemicals and/or biological material and/or radioactive material. Do I need to take EHS training?**

Yes - depending on the hazardous materials used, or experiments conducted, you will need completed training. Consult [bit.ly/CUSafetyTraining](http://bit.ly/CUSafetyTraining) to have a complete list of training or the EHS webpage at [concordia.ca/ehs](http://concordia.ca/ehs) to know more, or email EHS at [ehs@concordia.ca](mailto:ehs@concordia.ca).

**Will I need to complete safety training to get my funds released?**

Yes - you will need to have successfully completed all the required training. Some external training may be recognized. More info at [bit.ly/ExternalTraining](http://bit.ly/ExternalTraining).