

# Application for Summer Student Research Assistantships

Academic Affairs, in collaboration with the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, is pleased to invite applications for the Student Research Assistant Program. This program is designed to encourage student participation in a broad range of scholarly and academic activities and is open to eligible undergraduates and graduates from all disciplines and academic areas of study. The assistantship provides financial support during the 2017 summer intersession months to undertake full-time research and scholarly activities in collaboration with a CSULB faculty (or principal investigator) research mentor. Research mentors are expected to meet regularly with their assistant and provide a blend of supervision that provides directed guidance with scope for initiative and independent thought.

Research assistants are compensated on the basis of time devoted to their research but are encouraged to undertake full-time research for a period of 8 consecutive weeks. Maximum award amounts are \$4,153 for undergraduate and \$5,779 for graduate students. \$200,000 is being allocated to award approximately 40 students.

Applicants must be matriculated, fully enrolled students in good academic standing. Undergraduate applicants should have successfully completed at least 18 units in their major by Spring 2017. Graduate students should have completed one year in their program by summer 2017. Applicants must have legal permission to work in the United States (i.e., US citizenship, US permanent residency, or proper authorization on a US student visa). The assistantship cannot be used to supplement salary already being received in summer 2017 from internal awards or from external grants in the pursuit of the study. Special consideration will be given to students who are in financial need and who are undertaking research on unfunded projects.

As a condition of accepting a research assistantship, active students are expected to report their scholarly accomplishments at the end of the summer, compete in the CSULB student research competition and present their research with their faculty mentor at the Annual Academic Achievement Awards Ceremony. Students who have graduated and cannot attend these events should publish or present their research at an appropriate regional/national forum.

## Application Materials and Guidelines

Applications and supporting materials must be received by Monday, **March 6, 2017**. Applications must be submitted by Faculty Mentor via Info-Ready Research Competition Space: (<https://csulb.infoready4.com/>). Due to the competitive nature of this award, a Faculty mentor may only nominate up to 2 students. If two students are nominated, the Faculty mentor must rank the two students.

Students must include the following in their application package:

- A résumé.
- Unofficial transcripts.
- Evidence of Eligibility to work in the US - if not a US citizen.
- [FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) information - if relevant to the application.
- A personal statement, of no more than two single-spaced pages, that explains the applicant's interest in conducting research, the research project they will be engaged in, and how the assistantship might promote their graduation and encourage his or her studies in this area.
- One letter of recommendation from the sponsoring CSULB tenure/tenure track faculty mentor with whom the applicant will be conducting research that speaks to the applicant's

qualifications. The letter must also address their proposed mentorship plan, the research activity the student will participate in, how this project fits into the faculty member's line of research, and, if relevant, how the results will improve the possibility of acquiring external funding in support of the project. The letter must be signed and on institutional letterhead. This award cannot be used as financial aid for the student to complete her/his Master's or undergraduate honors thesis.