



College of Veterinary Medicine
UtahStateUniversity

**Animal, Dairy, and Veterinary
Sciences Department**

November 30, 2022

Dear USU DVM Students,

The USU College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) is soliciting applications for the 2023 Veterinary Research Scholars Program. This program provides fellowship stipends to support student involvement in USU-CVM, WSU-CVM, and USDA-PPRL research activities. The Research Scholars program of the College of Veterinary Medicine allows selected first and second-year students to pursue a research option with or without pursuit of a graduate degree. This option is designed specifically to provide veterinary students with the opportunity to explore the possibility of a research-oriented career in veterinary medicine. Participation in the Veterinary Research Scholars Program is typically a three-year commitment (assuming entry in year 1, or a two-year commitment after entry in year 2), culminating in the publication of scholarly work in a reputable research scientific journal. Scholars are also expected to prepare and submit a proposal to the Summer Research Fellowship Program (information provided separately) during each year of participation. Please review the details provided on the subsequent pages of this letter for more information. We certainly hope you will consider applying to this program and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

The 2023 USU CVM Student Research Steering Committee

Dr. Jeff Mason (chair)
Dr. Kara Thornton-Kurth
Dr. Shawn Zimmerman

https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_00LiLWPOJRD3iVE

Eligibility:

- Applicants must be 1st or 2nd year veterinary students.
- Student applicants must not be on academic probation. Prior to applying, please check with the Office of Student Services to verify your status. Although an absolute class rank minimum is not established, please be aware the class rank may influence the competitiveness of your application.

Stipulations upon award:

- **Applications are due February 3, 2023, by 5:00 PM MST.**
- Scholars are expected to prepare and submit a proposal to the Summer Research Fellowship Program and follow all requirements and stipulations associated with the summer program.
- Applicants who wish to enroll in additional summer coursework or engage in additional summer employment must gain approval from their mentor (also called “sponsor”) and the Program Coordinator of Academic and Student Affairs office (cara.allen@usu.edu) before applying for the Veterinary Research Scholars Program.
- Each fellowship recipient will be required to sign a letter that stipulates they understand and agree to the above requirements and that failure to meet these requirements will result in stipend funds being withheld and/or repaid to the CVM.

Review criteria:

Acceptance into the Research Scholars program is competitive. If you are interested in research and the Research Scholars program and still have questions after reviewing information at the vetmed.usu.edu research website, please contact Dr. Jeff Mason (jeff.mason@usu.edu). Previous research experience is not required or necessary; however, previous academic achievement and a genuine interest in exploring a research-oriented career in veterinary medicine is essential. Please also see the review criteria for the Veterinary Summer Research Fellowship Program for more details on how projects will be reviewed and scored.

Funding:

Funding for the Research Scholars program is provided via the USU College of Veterinary Medicine. Awards from these sources are made contingent upon the faculty mentor agreeing to provide material support for the project. Each Summer Research Fellowship Program Award provides a **\$6,000** student stipend in the summer. Veterinary Research Scholars are awarded an additional **\$2500 stipend** each year to support their continued research efforts in the spring and fall semesters.

Required application materials:

If you wish to be considered for this program, please submit a formal application to the 2023 Veterinary Summer Research Fellowship Program, along with the following supplemental materials:

A. Short essay:

This essay should not exceed 5 typed pages. Please use 11 pt Arial font, 1-inch margins, 1.5-line spacing, and page numbers. The essay should detail the following:

- 1) Your motivation for desiring admission to the Research Scholars program
- 2) What you hope to get out of the Research Scholars program
- 3) What you now see yourself doing in five years? Ten years?
- 4) A description of any previous research experiences (previous experience is not required, but we would like to know about experiences you may have had).

B. Optional letter of recommendation:

This letter should emphasize your experiences and qualities relevant to research. For instance, letters from previous research advisors or supervisors would be beneficial for the committee in evaluating your application. Letters may be included in your application or submitted separately.

How to submit your application:

Combine all of the above required elements of your application, including the applicant and mentor letters, into a single electronic PDF file and name the file as follows: "lastname_firstname_VSRFP1_2023." This file must be submitted via a Qualtrics link https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_00LiLWPOJRD3iVE by **5:00 PM MST on Friday, February 3, 2023**. You will receive written notification of the disposition of your application by no later than the end of March 2023.