



**From:** David Frost, Associate Dean (Student Affairs)

**Date:** December 14, 2017

**To:** Undergraduate students in Year 0, 1, 2, and 3

**Re:** *Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering (SURE) program for Summer 2018*

We are pleased to announce the **tenth edition** of the **Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering (SURE)** program. For almost a decade, SURE students have worked closely with engineering professors on innovative research projects for 16 weeks in the summer term. In celebration of our 10<sup>th</sup> year, please find the new logo for the SURE program below. We look forward to your enthusiastic participation for another 10 years!



*"Undergraduate students, engineering professors, and graduate students in all engineering department/schools (represented by the individually colored waves) working together in the advancement of research"*

The SURE program offers approximately 125 summer research awards valued at a minimum of \$5,625. Approximately 40 research awards will be made available through the [NSERC Undergraduate Student Research Awards \(NSERC USRA\)](#) program, while the remaining research awards will be funded through the Faculty of Engineering, the Trottier Institute for Sustainable Engineering and Design (TISED), and by generous donors. In both cases, a portion of the support comes from the research funds of the professor supervising the project.

In the SURE program, students work closely with a professor on one of their research projects for 16 weeks during the summer. The program provides exposure to the research experience, as well as opportunities to learn more about the graduate school experience and about careers in research.

The SURE research awards that are funded through the Faculty of Engineering are **available to students irrespective of their citizenship or immigration status** (i.e., the program is open to Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and international students). On the other hand, as per NSERC regulations, the NSERC USRA awards are available to Canadian citizens or permanent residents only.

### **SURE Program Details**

For details on the **available projects and to access application forms, please visit the SURE webpage** (<http://www.mcgill.ca/engineering/sure/>). Projects will be posted by **January 16, 2018**, so please re-visit the web site after that date.

1. Eligibility: Full-time students in **Year 1** (having completed at least two semesters of study at the time of application; at least one completed semester for CEGEP entrants), **Year 2, or Year 3**, who have a **CGPA of 3.0 or higher**. The program is also open to May 2018 (Winter 2018) graduates. For the NSERC USRAs, there are additional eligibility requirements as stated on the NSERC webpage at [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRA-BRPC_eng.asp).
2. The participation in the SURE program will be recorded on students' transcripts. Specific courses (FACC 351-354 – SURE Experience) have been created to offer students an official record of their participation in the SURE program. Supervisors and SURE participants need to complete a short form at the end of the program, confirming that the student has completed the SURE program.
3. The SURE and NSERC USRA awards will be administered by the Faculty through the McGill Engineering Student Centre.

4. The duration of the SURE program is 16 weeks beginning on Tuesday, May 1, 2018 and ending on Friday, August 17, 2018. Students are required to participate in research on a full-time basis.
5. SURE positions are **full-time positions** (minimum of 35 hours) for the entire 16 weeks, e.g., SURE participants should not be registered for any summer courses. A vacation request may be accommodated by the supervisor if not in conflict with any SURE events and if the student will make up for the missed time.

#### How to apply to SURE

1. The first step is to look up the available projects at (<http://www.mcgill.ca/engineering/sure/>). All projects will be posted by **January 16, 2018**. Once you have settled on your preferred project(s), contact the supervisor(s) to discuss your interest in the research, and the anticipated research tasks and deliverables for the project.
2. If you and the supervisor tentatively agree that you should apply to the project, proceed to the Online Student Application form for which a link can be found on the SURE website under 'Application'. **Application forms will become available as of Tuesday, January 16, 2018.**
3. Students may submit a **maximum of 3 applications**. If a student qualifies for more than one project, it is assumed that they wish to work on all projects equally and thus may be placed in a select project at random. Therefore, should the supervisor and student agree to work together, the supervisor should rank only one student and the student should apply to only one project.
4. Please use a new application form for each project you apply to. Once the Online Student Application has been completed and your transcript uploaded, please print a copy and **bring it to your intended supervisor along with your Official University Transcript** (McGill students may submit their unofficial Minerva transcripts).
5. Plan to attend the 'How to Apply to SURE Information Session', to be held **Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 11:35 am in the McConnell Engineering Building, Room 13.**
6. The deadline for submitting application forms to your supervisor is **Friday, January 26, 2018**. We anticipate a high level of participation in this program and we therefore recommend that you **discuss your candidacy with potential supervisors well ahead of the deadline**. Note: Application packages (i.e., application form and transcript) are to be submitted to your intended supervisor.
7. SURE and NSERC USRAs will be awarded on a competitive basis and award decisions will be based on CGPA and academic credentials. Award decisions will be announced by **February 16, 2018**.

I encourage you to apply to the SURE program and engage in one of the many exciting research projects available.

Thank you,



cc: Jim Nicell, Dean, Faculty of Engineering  
Chidinma Offoh-Robert, Director, Engineering Student Centre  
Administrative Assistants, all Engineering Departments/Schools