

The Dorothy and David Cooper Scholarship Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

Fellowship Awards: Funding in the amount of \$4,000 - \$5,000 (depending on the size of available funds) will be awarded to outstanding students majoring in psychology who are completing a research project in the summer of 2020.

Eligibility

Applicants must be Rutgers University students who are declared Psychology majors. Students can be rising sophomores, juniors or seniors. Only matriculating students who are registered for classes in the Fall 2020 semester and who will complete their degree no earlier than May 2020 are eligible.

Priority will be given to students who have already declared psychology as their major. Students who are completing the requirements to declare the major by the end of the Spring 2020 semester will need to provide a formal statement co-signed with their adviser that they will declare a major in Psychology.

Students who plan to declare after completing required courses during Summer Session 2020 or in Fall 2020 semester WILL NOT be considered (but may be eligible applicants for Summer 2021).

A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.20 is required.

Preference will be given to non-traditional students and to students with financial need, but all eligible students are strongly encouraged to apply.

Faculty Mentorship Requirement. The research project must be novel, independent, and conducted under the supervision of a Rutgers-New Brunswick Department of Psychology faculty member in Summer 2020. The faculty mentor should have an active research program, be a member of the graduate faculty, and have sufficient resources to support the proposed research. Faculty who do not meet this requirement are not excluded from sponsoring Cooper applicants, but must provide evidence of active affiliation with faculty who do meet these requirements, and who agree to serve as a co-mentor.

If it is not possible to collect data, the research project for Summer 2020 may consist of an extensive literature review written as a review article suitable for journal submission or a research proposal in the format of an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship proposal that may be carried out at a later time. **The time commitment and extent of faculty supervision required for the SURF is the same whether the proposed project involves data collection during the summer or not.**

Completion Requirements:

- A minimum of 250 hours of active research effort (or approximately 10 weeks, 25 hours per week) is required. All work must meet the expectations of the faculty supervisor.
- Approximately mid-way through the project (no later than **July 10, 2020**), a progress report of 1-2 pages must be submitted to the faculty supervisor that details achievements, as well as anticipated problems and plans to address them. A copy of the progress report signed by the Faculty mentor should be forwarded to the office of the psychology Cooper SURF committee at: coopersurf@psych.rutgers.edu.
- A written research paper in the format of an article in a peer-reviewed scientific journal **or a grant proposal in the format of an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship proposal** must be submitted at the end of the

project period. **Review articles can be submitted as well as reports of empirical research.** **After review and approval by the faculty adviser** the paper will be forwarded to the Cooper committee, by no later than ***Monday, August 31, 2020.***

- Failure to comply with these requirements may disqualify eligible students from applying for a second Cooper fellowship in the future.

Application procedure: The following materials must be submitted for all applicants:

A) Materials to be submitted by the student applicant:

- 1) Completed application cover page
- 2) Current academic transcript (unofficial)
- 3) Research proposal (not exceeding five pages), including
 - a) Description of project (e.g., background, aims/hypotheses, subjects, methods and planned analyses – **note:** IRB and IACUC certification is **required** as appropriate)
 - b) A statement of (i) work responsibilities for the project, (ii) start and end dates, (iii) student-faculty meeting schedule

B) Materials to be submitted by the faculty supervisor:

- 1) Current CV (e.g., NIH-like biosketch - two pages max.)
- 2) Mentor statement outlining
 - a) the laboratory environment
 - b) the plans for student training and supervision, and monitoring attendance
 - c) confirmation that the laboratory possesses sufficient resources to fund the project
- 3) Letter in support of the student's application, justifying the student's eligibility

Application Deadline: The complete application is due by Friday, April 17, 2020. Please email all materials to coopersurf@psych.rutgers.edu

Award Notification: Applicants will be informed of their status no later than Monday, April 27, 2020.

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Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship**

Application Cover Page

Name

RUID# -00-

Date of Graduation

Home Address

Campus Address

E-Mail

Mobile Phone

Home Phone

Overall GPA

Psychology GPA

Age First-generation student (Y/N)

FAFSA filed for 19/20 (Y/N)

Relevant coursework and laboratory experience:

Career objective:

Project Title

Faculty Supervisor

Signature

Rutgers Psychology Faculty Co-Sponsor (if required)

Signature