



Industrial Undergraduate Student Research Awards (IUSRA)

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) has formed a regional partnership with the National Research Council Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP) and Springboard Atlantic Inc. to help increase regional opportunities for undergraduate students to conduct research activities in Atlantic companies.

Small and medium-sized companies in Atlantic Canada that hire undergraduate science and engineering students for a 12- to 16-week research project may be reimbursed up to \$6,500 per student (up to \$4,500 from NSERC and \$2,000 from NRC-IRAP). Please note that NSERC prorates its payments based on the number of weeks the student has worked. **Companies must pay students a set minimum salary (please see chart on page 3) during the 12- to 16-week work period in order to be considered for a top-up award from NRC-IRAP / Springboard Atlantic.**

Company eligibility	Must meet criteria and apply for participation
Application success rate	Approximately 90%
NSERC contribution	\$4,500 for a 16-week work term + \$2,000 from NRC-IRAP
Minimum company contribution	A minimum of 25% of award value
Duration of award	12 to 16 consecutive weeks of full-time employment
Intellectual property ownership	Host company retains all titles and rights to the results of the student's work. The host company's patent policies apply to any patentable inventions.
Application submission	Using the NSERC On-line System Login at http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/onlineservices-servicesenligne/index_eng.asp , the student creates an account and receives an electronic PIN. The student signs in, completes and electronically submits to NSERC Form 202 Part 1 along with an updated official university or college transcript. The student will be assigned a Reference Number. Once the student has completed this task, the company official must create an electronic profile (or use its existing profile) and complete Form 202 Part 2 under the Partner tab. The company official then links Form 202 Part 2 to the student's Form 202 Part 1 and transcript using the student's reference number to submit the completed application. *Please note that companies submitting an initial application must also complete Form 183B online, print it, scan it and send it to industrial.awards@nserc-crsng.gc.ca .
Evaluation time	Three to four weeks
Status of the award holder	Employee of the company for the duration of the award
Management of funds	The company pays the funds and issues the T4 or T4A directly to the student. NSERC and NRC-IRAP pay their contribution directly to the company at the end of the work period. NRC-IRAP funds are administered by Springboard Atlantic.
Progress monitoring	Before the end of the work term, the company and the student will receive separate online surveys via email. Both documents must be completed and emailed back to NSERC in order for the company to be reimbursed.



Which students are eligible?

Students registered in an eligible university or college bachelor’s degree program in natural sciences or engineering. Students must have a cumulative average of B or B-, depending on the university or college. Students may hold only one IUSRA per fiscal year (April 1 to March 31) and may hold a maximum of three IUSRAs throughout their academic career. IUSRAs may be held during co-op placements.

Where can a student hold their award?

Industrial Undergraduate Student Research Awards can be held only in the research and development facilities of companies in Canada. Producer-oriented industry associations may also be eligible to apply for awards.

How are students selected?

Companies can select candidates based on interviews and other referrals. NSERC may support up to 15 students per eligible organization per fiscal year (April 1 to March 31). **Please note that there is a limit of two (2) top-up awards from NRC-IRAP per company per year.** Awards will be given on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to availability and to fulfilment of the eligibility criteria.

Who supervises the student?

Students must be supervised by full-time employees of the company. Whenever possible, supervision should be provided by research staff.

When is the application deadline?

NSERC should receive IUSRA applications from the organization at least four weeks before the scheduled start date of the work term. Applications received more than two months after the start date of the student’s work term will not be approved.

Travel allowances

NSERC may approve a travel allowance for the actual costs a student incurs to travel to the host organization’s work location. The allowance is based on the economy air fare between the university or college at which the student is registered and the organization.

Please visit the NSERC website for complete information about this program:

http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/UG-PC/USRAI-BRPCI_eng.asp

Contacts

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Minimum Requirements for Companies to Qualify for Top-Up Awards from
National Research Council Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program
(NRC-IRAP) / Springboard Atlantic Inc.

Length of work term	Minimum Company Contribution (25%)	NSERC Prorated Payment	NRC – IRAP Top-Up Award*	Total Minimum Student Salary
12 weeks	\$843.75	\$3,375.00	\$2,000.00	\$6,218.75
13 weeks	\$914.10	\$3,656.25	\$2,000.00	\$6,570.35
14 weeks	\$984.38	\$3,937.50	\$2,000.00	\$6,921.88
15 weeks	\$1,054.69	\$4,218.75	\$2,000.00	\$7,273.44
16 weeks	\$1,125.00	\$4,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$7,625.00

*** Please note that a limited number of top-up awards are available**