

Dear Faculty and Research Staff,

We are proud to announce the 6th year of the Honors Capstone Research (HCR) Summer Program. You may be approached by current Honors College students who would like to apply, so here's the relevant information:

The purpose of the grant is to support research or creative experiences that lead to capstone projects for Honors Students in all fields of study, foster collaborative research and creative endeavors, expose Honors students to the highest levels of academic and creative work, and to further UAH's research mission.

This grant is funded through the Honors College Fee and is modeled on the UAH Research and Creative Experience for Undergraduates (RCEU) Summer Program. The two programs join together as part of the Summer Community of Scholars (SCS) that also include National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates (NSF REU) participants who are spending the summer at UAH. HCR participants will receive a total stipend of \$3,750 made in two payments (at the beginning and midpoint of the program). The length of the program matches the dates for the 10-week Summer Semester.

No funding is provided to the mentor through this program, but Honors students can also apply for the Honors mini- and travel grants to cover some of the costs associated with the project.

The main difference between the UAH RCEU and the Honors Capstone Research Summer Program is the application process. For the Honors program, the student, with support of the mentor, writes a one-two page proposal for consideration by the selection committee. Please note: Mentors may apply for both the Honors Capstone Research program and the RCEU. Multiple proposals can be submitted to both programs by the same mentor, but EACH proposal must be unique and offer an opportunity for a unique individual undergraduate participant. In other words, should a mentor submit more than one proposal to either or both programs, in order to maintain eligibility, there must be NO duplicate proposals OR student candidates within AND across both programs. The eligibility and requirements for the Honors Capstone Research program can be found below.

Eligibility and Requirements

- Current, full-time, degree-seeking Honors College students in good standing
- Any major and academic year are eligible, but students must not graduate before the Fall Semester of the year they participate in the program (Fall 2022 for this upcoming program)
- Students must not have any outstanding disciplinary issues
- Students must be working under the guidance of a mentor who may be a UAH faculty, research staff, or professional community member. Applications involving a non-UAH mentor must be approved by the Honors Dean
- **HCR participants can take a UAH Maymester class, but CANNOT take a UAH class during the 10-week summer semester. Holds will be placed on participants' accounts in order to insure this policy.**
- **HCR Participants CANNOT be employed by UAH in any capacity during the summer semester (this includes Maymester), including during any pay period before the start or end of the program that extends into the program dates. Students should budget for this shortfall.**

- Student should write the proposal in consultation with the mentor, and the final proposal should be reviewed and approved by the mentor before submission
- Students can receive this award only once during their undergraduate careers
- Students selected for this program are also eligible to apply for one Mini Grant and one Travel Award during each academic year
- Students selected for this award must be willing to present/publish their work at applicable dissemination events/publications including, but not limited to: the end-of-program poster session, Research Horizons Day, the Alabama System Honors Research Day, Honors recruiting events, other professional symposia. Students participating in this program are strongly encouraged to submit a manuscript to *Perpetua*, the UAH Journal of Undergraduate Research
- HCR participants are required to attend all professional development sessions including the writing workshop sessions throughout the summer. As such, their mentor must be willing to review the participant's writing, and support creating the draft manuscript.
- The participant and mentor should be willing to participate in the summer shadowing program [exact date(s) TBD].

Applications are due February 1, 2022 (5PM CST). After review of applications, award notifications normally are made before the end of the month. Awards will be given until funds are exhausted (approximately 15 awards). Any student that goes on Honors probation at the end of the Spring Semester in which the fellowship was awarded must make every effort to prepare themselves to recover their good standing in the next Fall Semester.

Application Materials

- A one- to two-page, single-spaced description of the project. This description must:
 - be understandable to a non-specialist
 - include the project's timeline (10 weeks between end of May and early August)
 - be written by the student in consultation with the mentor; the mentor must review the application to ensure that all appropriate information is included, and sign off on the proposal's accuracy and practicality as a capstone project.
- Student's cumulative GPA
- One letter of support from the mentor submitted via email to the Honors Dean. The letter should confirm the legitimacy and practicality of the proposed project as a capstone project.

Students should apply online at: <https://forms.gle/8kcZye1MxurAQgsdA>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

David Cook, Director of Undergraduate Research, Honors College

Bill Wilkerson, Dean, Honors College