

2026 RSB Summer Research Proposal

Please submit your completed application and supporting materials **by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 27, 2026.**

Directions:

1. After reviewing the questions below, complete the UR Summer Fellowship application found here <https://ursf.richmond.edu/apply/index.html>
2. Include a copy of your unofficial transcript
3. As part of the application, please request your sponsoring faculty member to submit a letter of recommendation on your behalf prior to 5:00 PM, February 27, 2026.

1. Title of Research Project:

2. Additional background in the subject area (200 word limit)

3. Aims: As concisely as you can, state the aims of your project. What are the specific questions you seek to answer? (200 word limit)

4. Academic Preparation: What academic experience have you had that prepares you for this project? (200 word limit)

5. Background and Significance: Why do you want to answer this question? What is known and not known in this area of inquiry? (Please provide citations from the relevant literature.) What literature will your project engage? Is there a new hypothesis you propose to address or missing information you propose to provide? (200 word limit)

6. Connection to Academic and Professional Goals: Please describe the role that this research project will play in your academic plans for the summer and/or the future (including whether you are part of a larger research team, whether the research is tied to an academic year course, honors thesis, graduate school application, specific job opportunity, etc.) (200 word limit)

7. Project Design and Methods: Describe the design of your project and explain how the methods and design of your project will answer the questions you pose. How does your project design compare to other approaches to questions on this field? For example, are you examining a new collection of data or utilizing a new analytical approach? (200 word limit)

8. Research Subjects: If your work requires human subjects, do you have approval from the IRB? If your work requires animal subjects, do you have approval from IACUC? If not, please explain what steps you will take to receive the required approval.

9. Literature Cited: Provide a full literature review and bibliography of works cited.

10. Questions for Students Who Received a Past Summer Research or Internship Award

- **Is the project for which you are applying the same research project you worked on during your previous summer research experience? (Y/N)**
- **Will you be working with the same mentor with whom you conducted research in a previous summer? (Y/N)**
- **Previous Summer Research (200 word limit)**
Please describe your previous summer research, what you learned during that summer, and, if applicable, how that experience prepares you for the research that you are proposing to do this summer. Please mention any concrete results of your previous research experience (e.g., conference presentations, publications)