

Research Assistantship Competition Instructions

This special initiative offers a competitive process by which Faculty members may apply for a Graduate Research Assistantship or an Undergraduate Research Assistantship in the amount of \$4,000. A faculty member contribution of \$1,000 is required. Successful students will receive a \$5,000 RAship contract, less applicable government remittances, paid in bi-weekly installments across their contract period. The Dean and Associate Deans will adjudicate the competition within the Dean's Office.

Eligibility

- Supervisors: BUFA members who are supervising graduate or undergraduate students in FOSS programs or departments and who have a primary appointment in FOSS
- Students: FOSS graduate students in research programs who are within their funded periods (including any COVID extension periods) and FOSS undergraduate students in their third or fourth year (must be entering or enrolled in third or fourth year when in the RAship), this includes the Spring/Summer before entering third or fourth year but not the Spring/Summer following fourth year unless they qualify as an entering graduate student (see below)
- Students who are entering a graduate research program in the upcoming Fall term may be included, if consultation with them is possible
- Students who have previously received an RAship through this program are eligible to apply again if they meet the criteria above and if the new application offers a significantly different opportunity
- Final reports from any previous RAships through this program must be submitted prior to either the faculty member or student applicant being eligible to apply to the program again, unless the RAship is still in process.

The application is to be completed by the faculty supervisor in consultation with the student. The supervisor and student will need to navigate any extra hours required; this RAship may be used to replace Teaching Assistantship or Marker/Grader positions for graduate students.

These RAships are not intended to support the student's thesis or MRP work but rather to provide additional research opportunities that will further enhance the student's training and CV. All awards must be used between May 1 of the competition year and August 31 of the following calendar year (e.g., between May 1, 2023, and August 31, 2024).

This application is comprised of the following sections:

Part 1: Rationale (up to 500 words)

Describe how the RAship will be used. It is important to indicate the general area of research and the specific project or projects in which the student will be working.

Part 2: Student training opportunities (up to 250 words)

Describe the training opportunities that will be provided to the student.

Part 3: Other benefits to student (up to 250 words)

Describe any other benefits to the student, which may include publication and presentation opportunities, expertise gained in a new area, or other relevant benefits. **Part 4: Benefits to supervising researcher and FOSS (up to 250 words)**

Describe the benefits of the RAship to the supervisor and to the Faculty of Social Sciences. These benefits may include items such as enhancing a grant application, publications, presentations, pilot work, connections with community, enhancing the profile of FOSS, or other relevant benefits.

Part 5: Declaration regarding previous RAships (up to 250 words)

To be completed only if the student has previously held an RAship through this program. Use this section to clearly outline how the student opportunity provided in the current application is significantly different than the previous application. It is not enough for it to be a different research project, the training opportunities and other benefits should also be outlined in terms of how they differ from the previous application.

Supervisors may submit a maximum of two applications; if submitting two, each application must be from a different program (BA, MA, PhD) in which they supervise. Questions should be directed to Dawn Zinga (dzinga@brocku.ca).