

Graeme Bell Travel Award

Application Deadline: Wednesday, September 30, 2026, at 11:59 AM (morning)

Send your completed GBTA application package to gbta@ucalgary.ca

The Graeme Bell Travel Award (GBTA) provides financial support to Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE) - (soon to be renamed the UREX Awards) or Alberta Innovates Summer Research Studentships (SRS) or Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA) student researchers interested in presenting at conferences or symposiums to share their PURE or SRS or USRA summer research findings as part of the research dissemination process. The GBTA Award is open to undergraduate students that have received an 8-, 12-, or 16-weeks Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE) or Alberta Innovates Summer Research Studentships (SRS) or Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA) Award in Spring/Summer 2026. This award is intended to support conference and symposium expenses.

DO NOT SUBMIT THIS PAGE

Before submitting, please ensure your application package includes:

- ☐ **Proof of acceptance to the conference or symposium (e.g., copy of letter or email verifying abstract acceptance)**
- ☐ **Copy of abstract submitted to conference or symposium**
- ☐ **Signed and completed Graeme Bell Travel Award application form**

PLEASE NOTE:

- Funding is for attending a conference **between August 1st, 2026, and July 31st, 2027**
- Students must be supported by and obtain a signature **from their PURE or SRS or USRA Supervisor**
- Use a type of font of no less than **Arial 8-point or Calibri 10-point**
- Only one application per student will be accepted
- Student applicant and Research Supervisor signatures must be included upon submission
- Refer to the Award Terms of Reference (p.7 & 8) and PURE/SRS/USRA Learning Outcomes (p.9 & 10) of application

SECTION A: Information and Eligibility

STUDENT INFORMATION		
Last Name:	First (Given) Name:	UCID Number:
E-mail Address:	Telephone Number:	
Preferred Pronoun (optional): ☐ Him ☐ Her ☐ They ☐ Prefer not to answer		

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND			
Degree Faculty:	Program of Study:	Year of Study:	Date of Degree Completion:
Have you ever received a Graeme Bell Travel Award? ☐ Yes ☐ No			
Is this the first time you attend a conference or a symposium as an attendee? ☐ Yes ☐ No			
Is this the first time you attend a conference or a symposium as a presenter? ☐ Yes ☐ No			

PRESENTATION DETAILS	
Type of Event: ☐ Conference ☐ Symposium ☐ Other (please specify):	
Name of Event:	
Event Location:	
Date of Event:	Event Reach: ☐ Local ☐ National ☐ International
Provide link to the event website:	
Type of Presentation: ☐ Oral Presentation ☐ Poster Presentation ☐ Other (please specify)	
Presentation Title:	

BUDGET DETAILS	
Provide an itemized list of expected expenses associated with the conference or symposium (registration fee, flights, accommodations, printing fees etc.) in CAD. Put each item on a separate line:	
Description of Expense	Cost in \$CAD
Registration Fee	
Meals	
Transportation (Airfare, and or ground)	
Accommodation	
Other expenses (provide details) printing etc.	
Include an estimated total of costs in CAD covered by your supervisor, department, and/or faculty if applicable	
Total in CAD – (minus) total costs in CAD covered by your supervisor/department/faculty if applicable	

PURE/SRS/USRA RESEARCH SUPERVISOR INFORMATION	
Name of Research Supervisor:	E-mail Address:
Faculty:	Department (if applicable):

SECTION B: Personal Impact

PERSONAL IMPACT

Describe how this research and conference experience impact your professional and personal learning. The quality of your response will be integral to the decision to award the Graeme Bell Travel Award. Please refer to the **PURE/SRS/USRA Learning Outcomes** on page 9 and 10 of the application form.

In your response, emphasize the following points providing examples:

- Articulate the contribution of the conference to your research skill development (200 words max.)

- Identify effective ways for communicating and disseminating research findings and conclusions to a broader audience in a conference setting (200 words max.)

- Explain how the conference aligns with your academic and professional goals (200 words max.)

- Outline your plans to build (or how you built) a network of researchers at the conference (undergraduate, graduate, and faculty) (200 words max.)

SECTION C: Confirmations

CONFIRMATIONS
☐ Yes, I am currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at the University of Calgary
☐ Yes, I am a 2026 PURE/SRS/USRA Award recipient and have fulfilled all terms of the award
☐ Yes, I will be presenting my PURE/SRS/USRA research at this event
☐ I agree that if selected as a GBTA recipient, I will provide a statement of impact of attendance at the conference or symposium, a headshot and complete the post-travel survey
☐ I agree that if selected as a GBTA recipient, I will send my banking information to the University of Calgary
☐ I agree that if selected as a GBTA recipient, I will send proof of attendance after the event
☐ I confirm that this application has not been written using GenAI tools such as ChatGPT, Co-Pilot, etc.
☐ I confirm that this information is accurate and that by submitting this form I am applying for the Graeme Bell Travel Award

SECTION D: Application Signatures

SIGNATURES	
Required signatures (electronic signatures are accepted): Student Applicant and PURE/SRS/USRA Research Supervisor	
I hereby confirm the information provided in this application is accurate and true. If awarded a Graeme Bell Travel Award I agree to abide by the regulations governing this funding, using the funding only for the purposes indicated in this application.	Applicant Signature: Date:
I hereby certify that the student will use the Graeme Bell Travel Award to enhance their professional learning and undergraduate research experience, and that the proposed event is directly related to PURE/SRS/USRA research the student has conducted under my mentorship.	Research Supervisor Signature: Date:

GRAEME BELL TRAVEL AWARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

The goal of the Graeme Bell Travel Award (GBTA) is to enrich and enhance the undergraduate research experience at the University of Calgary. The GBTA provides financial support to the Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE) - (soon to be renamed the UREX Awards), Alberta Innovates Summer Research Studentships (SRS), and the Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA¹) student researchers interested in travelling to conferences or symposiums to share their summer research findings. The GBTA is open to undergraduate students who have received an 8-, 12- or 16-week PURE or SRS or USRA award in spring/summer 2026.

Value

Students can apply for a maximum of one (1) GBTA for up to \$1,600. GBTA recipients will be paid directly by the Student Awards Office as a one-time payment. The award payment is intended to cover student expenses associated with participating in a conference or symposium.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for a GBTA, students must:

- Be a student in good academic standing;
- Be currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student at the University of Calgary;
- Have received a PURE, SRS or USRA award in spring/summer 2026;
- Have submitted a complete GBTA application;
- Be **presenting** your summer research at a conference or symposium; and
- Must attend or have attended the conference or symposium **between August 1, 2026 and July 31, 2027**

Criteria for Award Allocation

In determining who will receive awards, the committee will consider the need for funds, clarity and originality of statements explaining of how the experience will enhance the program outcomes of the Undergraduate Summer Studentships program, the number of applications, event type, and the nature of participation. In general, conference presentations will be given higher priority over poster presentations. The committee may also prioritize first-time conference attendees and presenters.

Final award decisions are communicated to applicants and the Student Awards Office. In conjunction with the Registrar's office, the Student Awards Office will allocate student award amounts directly.

Application Deadline

September 30, 2026 @ 11:59 **AM** (morning)

¹ The tri-council funded NSERC, SSHRC, CIHR

Accountability**Students must provide the following in the GBTA application:**

- Students must be supported by and obtain a signature from their Supervisor
- Proof of acceptance to present at the conference or symposium

Students must provide the following AFTER the conference or symposium:

- Provide proof of attendance at the conference or symposium (ex. photo of name tag, conference program)
- Statement that the fee has not been paid by other sources (supervisor, department, faculty)
- Statement of impact of attendance at the conference or symposium
- Headshot
- Complete the post-travel survey

Receipt of Travel award

You will be notified by email of the result of your application within 3-4 weeks of the application deadline.

Upon accepting a Graeme Bell Travel Award, recipients are required to provide banking information to the University of Calgary.

APPENDIX B: Program for Undergraduate Research Experience (PURE)/ Alberta Innovates Summer Research Studentships (SRS)/ Undergraduate Student Research Awards (USRA) Learning Outcomes

LEARNING BUNDLE	LEARNING OUTCOME	CORE SKILLS
	By the end of PURE/SRS/USRA, students will be able to:	
Research Skills	Develop a research plan, identify a specific area of inquiry, assess the viability and suitability of research practices, carry-out the research plan and communicate research findings. (More specific sub-outcomes) • Formulate a research question, study aims, and hypotheses • Identify the knowledge required to meet research aims anticipating ethical, cultural, and social considerations. • Identify & generate • Information/data required using appropriate methodology. • Evaluate the credibility of sources, information & data and can make your research processes visible. • Organize information & data to reveal patterns/themes, managing teams & processes. • Analyze information/data critically & synthesize new knowledge to produce a coherent understanding. Collaborate with other researchers in the design, planning, and implementation of a research project. Describe the importance of your research to communities on- and off-campus; effectively communicate the value and impact of your research and conclusions to a variety of audiences.	• Problem-solving • Communication • Organizational skills • Learning independently • Applying research skills and tools • Creativity
Research Identity	Reflect on and articulate the impact of the PURE/SRS/USRA research experience on research skill development and researcher identity.	• Reflective practice • Organizational Skills • Learning independently • Judgement

Career Goals	Reflect on and articulate the impact of the PURE/SRS/USRA research experience on academic and professional growth and career goals.	• Reflective practice • Learning independently • Communication • Judgement
Community Building	Establish and participate in a community of scholars, developing a network of undergraduate, graduate, and faculty researchers across campus and beyond.	• Reflective practice • Collaboration • Communication