

## **Linder Family Undergraduate Research Fellowship Program**

**Roy J Carver Department of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology, Iowa State University**

**Mission:** To encourage and provide support for undergraduates conducting independent research in the laboratories of faculty in the Department of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology.

**Who may apply:** Undergraduate students with majors in biochemistry, biophysics or agricultural biochemistry must have at least sophomore standing by the time they begin the program. Preference will be given to students who are seeking their first independent research experience. Students must have time to complete one year of the program before graduation. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better is required to apply. In order to maintain the Fellowship, a minimum semester grade point average of 3.0 must be maintained.

**One Year Fellowship:** Fellowships (\$500 – 1,000 per semester, depending on funds and student status) will be awarded for an academic year or two semesters. Fellowships may be renewed for a second year.

**Resource Award:** Fellowship recipients, working closely with their research mentor, may submit a short grant proposal to request funds for materials in support of the research plan. The resource award is independent of the Fellowship and a limited number are available each year with varying levels (\$1,500 max.). The Fellowship will also include a 1-year undergraduate student membership of the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

**Time schedule:** Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

**Time commitment for Fellowship:** During each semester, recipients are expected to dedicate an average of 10 hours per week actively involved in research.

**Application process:** All materials must be submitted by the deadlines indicated above to BBMB Scholarship Committee to the attention of Desi Gunning, 1228 MBB.

- 1) Completed and signed application check-list. [Linder Application Check List.pdf](#)
- 2) Current resume to include academic status and research experience.
- 3) Research proposal developed with faculty mentor. The student and faculty mentor should apply as a pair.
- 4) Two letters of recommendation are required. If necessary, semifinalists will be interviewed.

**Reporting requirements:** Fellowship students are required to give an oral or poster presentation, typically during the Spring semester, at the Stupka Undergraduate Research Symposium. At the end of the Fellowship, students will submit an abstract, Fellowship research summary, and an evaluation.

**Renewal of Fellowships:** A second-year Fellowship is possible. The student must compete for this Fellowship as well, which is awarded through the BBMB Scholarship Committee. A written report of previous research supported by the Fellowship or a copy of a journal manuscript or proceedings must be included.

**Informal gatherings:** Fellows will participate in group-scheduled research meetings throughout the Fellowship year to discuss their research activities.

**National and regional meetings:** Fellows are encouraged to present papers at regional or national meetings. If available, funds may be requested from the Department to assist in travel and registration costs.

## **Responsibilities of the Mentor**

Who may apply? Faculty mentors interested and committed to teaching the student on a one-to-one basis should consider this an excellent opportunity to bring a motivated and enthusiastic undergraduate student with funding into their research program.

Mentor requirements: Faculty mentors are expected to spend a minimum of one hour per week with the Fellow during an academic semester and to teach the Fellow the background knowledge and skills required to perform the research. The faculty mentor is expected to be available throughout the academic year to provide research guidance and direction to the undergraduate Fellow. The mentor will be responsible for the generation of the final report (written by the student, under the guidance of the mentor).

Mentor selection: Potential faculty mentors will provide a statement regarding their research area and interests with the student application to the BBMB Scholarship Committee. A completed application form that states their interest in participating in the program is also required.