

**Undergraduate Student Research Award (USRA) - $5000**

**Application Deadline:** 4:00 pm, April 13th, 2017

When registering at Grande Prairie Regional College, a student acknowledges the right of the College to collect information under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Personal information that is maintained as part of student record will be used for the purposes of issuing scholarships and awards, and notifying donors as to the recipients of their awards. Information on award applications may be shared with the donor.

**Personal Information:**

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| **Last Name** | **First** | **Social Insurance Number** |
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| **Phone Number** | **GPRC Student ID** | **Date of Birth (YYYY/MM/DD)** |
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| **Project Team Commitment: (please check one)** | **Program** | **Email Address** |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4 months (May 1, 2017 – Sep 1, 2017) |  |  |
| \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 8 months (May 1, 2017 – Dec 20, 2017) |  |  |

**\***There will be an expectation of approximately 400 hours total commitment time to complete the research project. Please keep this time demand in mind when proposing a research project.

**GPRC Undergraduate Student Research Award:**The purpose of this competitive research award is to enable students at GPRC to participate in research endeavors at Grande Prairie Regional College, receive financial compensation for their research activities, and experience the process of applying for and obtaining a competitive research award. The successful applicant will have the opportunity to conduct an independent research project under the mentorship of a supervisor and will have the ability to develop personal and professional skills which are related to research (e.g., working with teams, critical thinking, analytical, organizational and communication skills) and are relevant to various career domains, graduate work and professional programs.

**Research Project Description:**The research project proposed by applicants must complement the research that is currently being conducted on the Grande Prairie Police and Crisis Team (PACT) program by Dr. Connie Korpan (Principal Investigator) and Dr. Michelle Yeung (Applied Scientist). For further information, please contact Connie Korpan ([ckorpan@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:ckorpan@gprc.ab.ca) or 780-539-2032) or Michelle Yeung ([myeung@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:myeung@gprc.ab.ca) or 780-539-2988).

**PACT Research Project:**   
The PACT program was established in 2009 in response to a growing need for a collaborative (RCMP and AHS), more efficient, dedicated response team that addresses mental health crises in the City of Grande Prairie and neighbouring regions. Partnering with Alberta Health Services, the RCMP, and the City of Grande Prairie, our research team at the Grande Prairie Regional College is currently conducting a comprehensive formative and summative evaluation on the implementation, service delivery and training, and short and long-term outcomes, and impact of the PACT program. The findings from the evaluation will lead to recommendations for the improvement of PACT program and will also have broader implications for community enhancement, social and mental health policy development in the City of Grande Prairie.

**Adjudication Criteria:**All adjudications are final and confidential. No appeals will be considered. Applications will be reviewed by a multidisciplinary committee and ranked according to Academic Excellence, Research Potential, Personal Characteristics and Recommendation Letters.

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| **CRITERIA** | **Description** | **Indicators** | **Weight** |
| **Academic Excellence** | As demonstrated by past academic results, transcripts, awards. | Academic record (First class standing)  Scholarships or awards held  Type of program and course load | 25% |
| **Research Potential** | As demonstrated by applicant’s research history, the quality of the research proposal, and contribution to advancement of knowledge in the field | Past research involvement and contributions  Quality, originality, merit significance, and feasibility of research proposal | 40% |
| **Personal Characteristics** | As demonstrated by the applicant’s personal characteristics, skills and development | Research interests and relevance to career pursuits  Applicant’s interpersonal skills including skills and development from research project (initiative, autonomy, independence, communication, leadership, management, technical/scientific concepts etc). | 25% |
| **Recommendation Letters** | As demonstrated by 2 letters of reference | Letters outline the academic, work and volunteer experiences of the candidate relevant to their future success in research endeavors | 10% |

**Eligibility Criteria:**

Please ensure you have read the eligibility and adjudication criteria before applying.

* Research proposals must be 1) related to the PACT research project (described on the previous page) and 2) relevant to the domain of Community Enhancement Research. These criteria can be interpreted broadly, encompassing disciplines that include psychology, sociology, biological and medical sciences, criminology, etc.
* Applicants must be students who have recently completed at least 60 post secondary credits at Grande Prairie Regional College by May 1, 2017
* Applicants must submit individual applications (i.e. only one applicant per application)
* Applicants will NOT be permitted to submit more than one application for each application cycle
* Students completing their final semester may apply, provided that they are not entering a graduate or professional program prior to the completion of the project
* Applicants may NOT apply for the research award to support a previous or current project for which academic credit has been or is concurrently earned (i.e. projects completed in research-based courses)

**Research Project Proposal (1000 words MAXIMUM):**Your proposal will be reviewed by a multidisciplinary committee; please avoid the use of abbreviations and jargon. Define technical terms as necessary. A comprehensive reference list/bibliography is NOT required.   
On a separate sheet, please provide a detailed description of your proposed research project. Please use the following category headings (in bold) to format your proposal:

* **Project Title** Please be descriptive in your title.
* **Project Background and Rationale (max. 200 words)** please describe the context/background as well as the rationale behind your research project (i.e., Why is this research necessary?).
* **Project objectives or research question(s) (max. 200 words)** please describe your research question(s), objectives, and hypotheses.
* **Proposed methods (max. 400 words)** please describe the methodology to be used and outline their appropriateness for addressing your research question(s).
* **Merit/impact of the project (max. 200 words)** please describe the implications, benefits/outcomes of your research project, and how it advances your field.

**Personal Statement (500 words MAXIMUM):**On a separate sheet, please provide information using the following category headings (in bold) to format your personal statement:

* **Academic Awards, Scholarships, Publications/Presentations (MAXIMUM 5)** please list any awards, scholarships, publications or presentations. Do not include bursaries. Select your top 5 achievements if you have more than 5.
* **Research interests and career plans (max. 250 words)** please describe your research interests and your future career goals and plans.
* **Anticipated personal skill development (max. 250 words)** please describe how your research project will contribute to your personal and professional development including specific skills and training you hope to attain.

**Recommendation Letters (from two referees):**

Please ask both of your referees to speak to your academic abilities, prior experience (school, work, or volunteer), training and skills that are relevant to conducting a research project. Reference letters from family members will not be accepted.

**Application Checklist:**

Below is a checklist of all required components for the application, please review and check off before submitting your application.

* GPRC Research Award application form
* Research Project Proposal (1000 words maximum)
* Personal Statement (500 words maximum)
* Recommendation Letters (2 referees)
* All official transcripts (DO NOT order them, these will be provided directly to the adjudication committee by student services)

Incomplete applications or applications submitted after the deadline of April 13th, 2017 (4pm) will not be reviewed (no exceptions).

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| **DECLARATION OF APPLICANT** | |
| I accept that decisions made by the Selection Committee may involve some subjectivity as qualitative aspects are being considered with varying personal circumstances.  Further to the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, I give permission for the disclosure and/or exchange of information to internal or external bodies as required in determining my eligibility or suitability.  I accept that the donor of my award may have access to the information provided in this application and may wish to contact me.  I accept that a normal part of the Awards Program is the release of identifying information to the media as part of the community relations of the College.  I accept that Grande Prairie Regional College reserves the right to make whatever changes in the award criteria or value as are deemed necessary, without notice, including the cancellation of an award.  I accept that outstanding debt to Grande Prairie Regional College is the first charge against any monetary award offered to me.  All information I have given is true in all aspects.  I acknowledge that my application is complete and that all adjudications are final. | |
| **Signature of Applicant** | **Date** |
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**Please drop off your completed application to Financial Aid, GPRC student services no later than 4:00 pm, April 13th, 2017.**

Competition results will be announced by April 28th, 2017.

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| **Financial Aid – Student Services** | |
| **Office:** H103 **Phone:** 780-539-2845 **Fax:** 780-539-2888 **Email:** [financialaid@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:financialaid@gprc.ab.ca) | GPRC Grande Prairie 10726 - 106 Ave Grande Prairie, Alberta Canada T8V 4C4 |