Summer Research Scholarship*, Early Research Scholarship**, and Non-Scholarship Research Agreement for Summer 2022

*Summer Research = rising second-year TAMS students
**Early Research (ER) = newly-admitted, incoming TAMS students

Accepting a TAMS Early Research or ongoing Summer Research Scholarship requires full-time participation in the ten-week summer session (June 6-August 7). TAMS will enroll all summer researchers (whether or not they be on a TAMS summer scholarship) in a zero-credit Honors College course to document the summer of research and to provide students with access to the Rec Center, medical facilities, meal plans, and the libraries. No summer researcher will enroll in a departmental course, as TAMS needs to maintain continuity of record keeping. All TAMS researchers must be enrolled in the zero credit course, regardless if the student is on scholarship or not.

Students who receive a TAMS summer scholarship and who then leave the research commitment prior to August 7 to take advantage of a different summer opportunity will be responsible, without the benefit of ongoing scholarship support, for whatever balance exists or is levied by the Departments of Housing, Dining Services, and/or by the Office of the Registrar.

To apply for this scholarship, students must have a cumulative semester average of at least 3.2 as of January 1 of the current academic year.

Disciplinary points may disqualify a student from participation in either scholarship or non-scholarship summer research.

The scholarship is for the 10-week summer session at UNT (June 6-August 7), and TAMS will grant NO exceptions for family travel plans, even if the travel has been scheduled months in advance and/or for which airline tickets have been already purchased. Such excursions are commitments that you have already made and that necessarily preclude participation in the summer-research program. Travel consideration for reasons pertaining to critical family illness and/or family bereavement will be judged case-by-case.

There will be no research-mentor substitutions. Students must work exclusively in the lab of the research mentor with whom they contracted in their scholarship-application form, relative to a specific summer-research project or program. There will be no “dropping” one professor, picking up another, and retaining the scholarship. Nor may students work in two labs concurrently.

Students must have their phones set in such manner as to receive Eagle Alert notifications.

Residency, Transportation, and Travel

Summer Scholarship recipients must live in McConnell Hall, even if parents are willing to drop them off and pick them up at day’s end. Scholarship recipients must apply their scholarship
toward tuition (for the zero-credit course), fees, room and board (a mandatory meal plan) and, if
necessary, toward room-clean-up fees. Non-scholarship TAMS students must pay to live in
McConnell Hall, purchase a meal plan, and abide by all rules applicable to scholarship holders.
Thus, non-scholarship research students must report their research plans to james.duban@unt.edu,
with a cc to Valerie.adell@unt.edu.

Soon-to-be second-year TAMS students may not have an automobile on campus until the fall of
their second year of TAMS. Thus TAMS Scholarship Students may not drive themselves to or
from campus and may not accept automobile rides from anybody other than a parent, a university
official, or a driver over the age of 25 assigned by the parent in writing to the Dr. James Duban,
Associate Dean for Research (james.duban@unt.edu), with a CC to Russ.Stukel@unt.edu. Early-
Research (ER) parents and students will sign out, and then back in, prior to, and following, travel
weekends.

Nor will any Summer Scholarship recipient use Uber or related modes of transport. Early
Research Students who leave campus at any time must sign out in designated front desk
booklets (electronic or otherwise), must enter cell-phone information, destination information,
and must, upon return, sign back in. Stated otherwise, the TAMS administration must always
know the location of students and how to reach them.

Students traveling on a daily or occasional basis to Discovery Park must take the UNT Yellow

Part of the application form will include the right of petition to be absent for a maximum of up to
five consecutive days (including Saturday and Sunday) solely to attend an educational venue
related directly to your summer research. Broader seminars or personal-development programs
are ineligible for leave approval. As pertains to eligible programs, students must request that
approval at the time you apply for the summer scholarship (not thereafter). Such petitions will not
include visits to other college campuses to assess their suitability for future residence or study.

Summer-research students will have a “closed weekend” on July 4 and then be at liberty, with the
consent of their research professors, to select two “travel-option weekends.” All such weekends
will commence on Friday and terminate by curfew on Sunday. The student may choose to utilize
a travel-option weekend for personal reasons, including the taking of standardized tests. Summer
researchers will NOT receive permission to be absent earlier in the week, including leave for
standardized testing, in excess of the two travel weekends. Any student who attends a five-day
conference or related academic experience that bears directly on research (rather than on non-
research-related programs) will be able to claim just one “travel-option weekend.” Students
should therefore NOT petition to attend any seminar, sessions, or personal-development programs
unrelated to specific research in their fields of study. Students who undertake allowable
excursions must do so under parental supervision for the entirety of their absence from campus,
with advance notification going to james.duban@unt.edu and to russ.stukel@unt.edu.

In any of these scenarios, students will be obliged to have their parents return them to campus by
curfew on the final day of the longer program or on the day of the exam or by Sunday evening if
the exam date leads into a self-chosen closed weekend. There will be no allowance, after the
application period, to apply for leave time and opportunities that simply “spring up.” Such
opportunities include leave time for programs for which a student has applied but has not yet finalized at the time of application for the TAMS Summer Research Program.

**All such enhancement requests must appear in a petition that accompanies the application for the TAMS Summer Scholarship and must be endorsed, at the time of application, by the student’s PI.**

Nor may students appeal for additional days by claiming that they will not use the five full days of conference absence, or the full weekend for standardized testing, or because the second standardized exam falls on a day other than a Friday or Saturday. Moreover, all absence must be approved by both the faculty research mentor and by the Associate Dean for Research (or by Ms. Valerie Adell, in the event of the Associate Dean’s absence)—**NOT** by Hall Directors or other staff members. Nor does a mentor’s approval override the disposition of the scholarship sponsor (that is, of the TAMS administration).

Students may not petition for at-home residence to assume extensive oversight responsibilities for family members. While we regret the possible need for such commitment, it is inconsistent with the residential experience we make available to students, relative to laboratory presence, interaction at meals, weekend seminars, and participation in the social community of young researchers.

Students whose parents drive them home for medical visits must see a physician and must bring an M.D.’s note on return. The emphasis is on M.D. or an assigned P.A., and not on any other health-professions personnel. Students must email PDFs of such notes (minus specific medical details) to james.duban@unt.edu.

**Tracking Research Time and Other Requirements**

Students will work 30-40 hours per week for nine consecutive weeks on the research project, or longer if the PI deems weekend work requisite to the needs of his/her lab. Saturdays and some Sundays will feature beyond-the-lab colloquia, sometimes with requisite reading assignments and mandatory attendance. Students will devote week 10, **at home**, to the creation of poster-slides, in preparation for Scholars Day (in April). (Ms. Adell will distribute PowerPoint templates.)

Students will record their research hours, on a weekly and monitored basis, into an online Qualtrics program for the review of TAMS administrators and PIs. Those 30-40 hours per week must include at least 30 hours of personal-contact time with a research mentor, post-docs, or graduate students. The remaining 5-10 hours must occur in a specified lab or library, per the decision of the PI. Students conducting computational research must similarly be in the presence of a PI, post-doc, or graduate student for 30 hours per week when conducting that computational research. The student’s doing so will encourage dialogue with mentors. Remaining hours of computational research will occur either in the PIs lab, or in a library of the PIs choosing—not in a residence hall.

Faculty mentors must attest—as part of the student’s summer-research application upload—to the fact that the preceding personal-contact hours (as opposed to “remote” contact) will be in play; otherwise the student will be ineligible for a summer-research scholarship. (Students conducting remote research on a consistent basis have no need for a residential scholarship.)
Students who conduct remote research (from home) must still enroll in a course of record and present at Scholars Day. They should notify Ms. Valerie Adell of their intention to conduct remote research, and with which professor who has authorized that arrangement, which should likewise entail 30-40 hours per week, with time commitment entered into Qualtrics.

On a weekly basis, Early Researchers will have dinner, at Bruce Hall, with one of more deans. These dinners will emphasize etiquette and communication skills. Students who enroll in Early Research should be willing to accept constructive criticism, for the benefit of their short- and long-term success in and beyond the campus environment. All research students will also attend mandatory weekend lectures from researchers who will discuss their various fields of inquiry and the ethics of research. All research students will attend weekly luncheons with the deans.

**Enrollment Conditions and Impacts of Withdrawal or Grade of “F”**

Students who receive a TAMS research scholarship **MAY NOT** enroll in additional courses; nor will non-scholarship students conducting research. They must live in McConnell Hall, purchase a meal plan, and not take academic courses during the summer. In other words, all non-scholarship students will have their choice of either coursework (per the approval of the Dr. Eric Gruver, Associate Dean of TAMS) or research that they are responsible for arranging with a professor who is willing to attest to the requisite 30+ contact hours, as discussed above.

Students who withdraw from the Early-Research Summer Scholarship Program (for reasons other than health) are automatically disqualified from applying, during the next academic year, for a TAMS Summer Research Scholarship.

The TAMS administration reserves the right to terminate the Summer Research Scholarship if a student’s PI reports a pattern of underperformance or the failure, on the part of the TAMS student, to meet the expectations of the lab. Financial balances will be the responsibility of the student.

**General Guidelines and Requirements**

All students performing summer research must carry health insurance, either through their family or through the family’s independent purchase of insurance for the student.

The number of persons living in a dormitory room will not exceed that stipulated by UNT's division of housing, and students will abide by all TAMS and UNT residential guidelines. All students who live on campus will abide by the same rules.

All students must abide by curfew hours (9:00 p.m. for Early-Research (ER) students; 11:00 p.m. for Summer Research students). Students should be in their rooms a few minutes prior to curfew for the staff to perform the check in.

Summer researchers may not make commitments to other functions (including part-time or full-time jobs). Doing so will nullify the scholarship and leave the student liable for all housing and dining room expenses accrued to date.
The summer scholarship will arrive in installments, contingent on excellent progress, as assessed by the mentor. Moreover, students whose PIs are in a position to pay them for their research must report that advantage to TAMS (via email to james.duban@unt.edu; Valerie.adell@unt.edu; Cortney.Watson@unt.edu; and eric.gruver@unt.edu (be more specific here – report it to Valerie, Dr. Duban, Dr. Gruver), so that an appropriate adjustment in their TAMS Summer Scholarship may come into play. No student will earn more than $5000 (total) for the summer of research.

By **July 15**, students will submit to Valerie.Adell@unt.edu, a mentor-approved 150-200 word, single-spaced description of summer research and outcomes-to-date. Students must compose the summary in such manner as to provide the generalist with reasonable understanding of, and appreciation for, your research and contributions to the field of science.

By **9:00 a.m., August 10**, students will submit, to Valerie.Adell@unt.edu, a PDF or PowerPoint (must use the provided templates) of the prospective poster-presentation that they will present on Scholars Day, in April. They may revise and update these posters throughout the upcoming academic year, in accord with further research. Nonetheless, the poster slide should comply with criteria for the Scholars Day exhibition (early April) at which students are obliged to present. Students will receive PDF or PowerPoint templates to guide them in poster presentation.

Students will ask their professors either to grant or deny permission to have a poster displayed on a TAMS website, should we decide to initiate an exhibit. (This is out of consideration to intellectual-property rights.)

Students understand that they must display their poster on Scholars Day (in April). We also encourage students to apply their research toward Regeneron and Goldwater applications, if students meet the criteria for either or both of those competitions. Such applications reflect admirably on the student, PIs, TAMS, and UNT. Stated otherwise, the students “gives back” in these venues.

As representatives of the Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science, students must be punctual, respectful, and compliant at all times, whether in a laboratory or residence hall setting, as their conduct reflects on the Academy. To that end, students agree to abide by all TAMS residence hall policies, and travel-to-and-from-home rules, as specified elsewhere in the application literature. Students will be accountable for online demeanor inconsistent with the comportment values of TAMS or of UNT students generally. Students must also abide by all University and TAMS rules, regulations, and policies. Consumption of alcohol, use of marijuana, or other narcotics, or even being in the company of those so engaged—will result in dismissal from the TAMS program. A dismissed student will be required to reimburse the full value of the research scholarship and may have additional punitive sanctions by the UNT Dean of Students’ Office or by local law enforcement.

Failure to complete **any** aspect of the scholarship requirements may result in cancellation of the scholarship and a grade of F for the summer session. In such cases, students will be responsible for any financial balances accrued to date.

*Your receiving this scholarship will be contingent upon review of all of your application materials and upon your uploading a signed PDF of this document as part of the*
application process.

Kindly print this form, fill in the information, and return a PDF to Valerie.Adell@unt.edu. Please sign legibly in dark ink.

Date

I _______ [student signature, followed by printed name] agree to the above rules and regulations.

Failure to comply with any part of this agreement will result in withdrawal of the scholarship.

Date:

I, ______Signature, followed by (printed name) _____________________, a parent of

__________________, agree to these terms.

Date: ________________________________