

COMP Research Committee review of Student Summer Research Grant applications

Overview:

Student Summer Research Grant applications will be considered for funding in a two-step process. First, applications submitted by COMP and COMP-NW students will be reviewed and ranked separately by respective sub-committees of the COMP Research Committee and the ranked lists forwarded to the Office of SVP for Research and Biotechnology. In the second step, the SVP will make the funding decision based on a percent cutoff applied to the ranked lists from COMP, COMP-NW and other Colleges.

COMP Review Process:

The Chair of the COMP Research Committee randomly and confidentially assigns two non-conflicted (i.e. not serving as Mentor) members to each application for evaluation. Reviewers submit their evaluation and scores to the Chair and the Preliminary Score is calculated by averaging. For applications where the two Reviewers' scores are 2 or less units (out of a total of 9 units) apart, the average will be the Final Score. Applications with a discrepancy of 3 or more units between Reviewers will be discussed at a scheduled meeting of the full Committee. Any applications that involve a member of the Committee will not be discussed unless that committee member has been excused. After the discussion, Reviewers will be allowed to revise their initial scores and the Final Score will be calculated by averaging. Based on the Final Scores, the Chair compiles separate ranked lists for COMP and COMP-NW to be forwarded to the SVP for consideration for funding.

COMP Review Criteria:

1. The Committee will review a maximum of **2 submissions** per Mentor.
2. Submissions will be evaluated based on the following criteria listed in the order of decreasing weight:
 - **Learning Potential:** what is the likelihood that the Student will benefit from the research experience? Is the role that the student will be playing clear in the application?
 - **Grantsmanship:** is the proposal well written and structured with clearly stated aims, hypothesis and experimental plan?
 - **Feasibility:** can the project reasonably be completed according to the timeline provided?
 - **Significance:** does the proposed research address an important problem?
 - **Primary Research** will be prioritized over Secondary Research (i.e. literature review)
3. Survey-based research will be evaluated based on the following additional criteria:
 - **Hypothesis-driven** (favored) vs descriptive research
 - **Quantitative** data statistically analyzed (favored) vs qualitative data generated
 - **Generalizability** of results (favored) vs results applicable to specific populations
 - **Replication** in independent cohorts (favored) vs single cohort surveyed