



## Edwin A. Weiller Summer Fellowship Program in the Sciences

The Edwin A. Weiller Summer Fellowship Program in the Sciences provides support for undergraduate students pursuing summer research in Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Physics and/or Environmental Sciences under the supervision of a Clark faculty member. **The amount of the award is \$3,000.** The Fellowship will also provide additional funding towards the cost of housing, up to the amount of a double-sized room on campus during summer, available toward on-campus, local, or field summer housing, if the research is done at an off-site location.

### **The following are general guidelines for this opportunity:**

- Students must participate in summer research in one or more of the following areas: Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Physics, and/or Environmental Sciences. All projects must be in the natural and physical sciences. Environmental science projects must be in a biological, natural, or physical science area (field or lab work, including computational); policy or social science projects are not eligible. Students pursuing research in Math and/or Computer Science may also apply for support if their proposed research has a strong nexus with one or more of the natural science fields listed above.
- Research projects must be under the supervision of a Clark faculty member.
- Students must be returning to Clark University as a full-time undergraduate student in the fall semester following the Fellowship.
- This award is intended primarily for students with career goals in the research sciences.

**Application Deadline is 5:00 p.m. on April 9, 2021.**

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Who is Eligible?**

- Students who have been hired as research assistants, overseen by Clark faculty.
- The research may be in one of Clark's labs, out in the field, or a combination.
- Students in good academic and social standing with the University.
- All students receiving the award must be a full-time student in the fall semester following the award.
- All students applying must have a designated faculty supervisor. (If the day-to-day work is overseen by a graduate student, the student receiving the funds must still have access to the faculty member overseeing the entire project.)

### **How do I apply?**

- Apply to and secure the research position.
- Recommended: attend a funding information session.
- Have your résumé reviewed by Career Development.
- Have your proposal reviewed by the Writing Center.



# Edwin A. Weiller Summer Fellowship Program in the Sciences

- Submit your application through the red "Apply Here" portal button on the [Opportunity Funding page](#)

## When will funds be disbursed?

- Funds are usually distributed in late May but may be distributed after **June 1**; please plan accordingly.

## What other sources of funding are available on campus?

- A list of alternative funding sources is available online: [www.clarku.edu/opportunity-funding](http://www.clarku.edu/opportunity-funding).

## Can I apply to more than one fellowship?

- Yes, however if you are awarded funding through one Clark fellowship it is unlikely that you will receive funding through another; it is our goal to award funding to as many students as possible.

## If You Are Awarded: Award Requirements

Students awarded Weiller funding will be required to:

- Attend *Know Before You Go* (virtual; afternoon of Friday, May 21, 2021).
- Participate in weekly (virtual) Summer Seminar meetings.
- Submit a 2-3 page reflection paper at the end of the summer describing research results and other insights.
- Participate in at least one student panel to talk about your experience the following academic year.
- Optional: Present your work at Fall Fest or Academic Spree the following year.

## Tax Information

**Domestic Students:** No taxes are withdrawn pre-disbursement; however, you will be expected to claim this award on your annual taxes and this may impact your taxes due at that time. Please consult an accountant for more detail.

## International students:

- International students staying in the US for their internship will have some taxes deducted from their funding amount prior to receiving the funding; this means that the amount you receive will be less than the total award. The amount deducted depends on which country you are from, and the tax treaty that the US has with that country. Generally, expect about 12-15% of your total award withdrawn. Please see the Clark payroll office with specific questions about your tax amount.
- International students doing their internship outside the US will not have taxes withdrawn or reported.



# Edwin A. Weiller Summer Fellowship Program in the Sciences

## Application

---

Please be prepared to answer the following questions in the application portal:

- Demographic Information
- Emergency Contact Information
- Major/Minor/Year of Graduation/GPA/Probation status
- Resume (upload)
- Unofficial transcript (upload)
- Risk and Liability Waiver (upload)
- Abstract (150 words) – describing research project
- Contact information of faculty supervisor for the project

**How to obtain your transcript:** log into the ClarkYOU portal, then click Main Menu, Registrar's Office, Student Account and Financial Aid, Student Records, Unofficial Academic Transcript, and submit. You can save the page as a PDF, or take a screenshot.

### Research Project Description

This section of the application should be in one document, saved as a pdf. There is a location to upload this document in the application portal. Be sure to save it according to the instructions (please use your first initial, last name, and name of document). **The entire document should be 3-4 pages.** Below is a suggested format. Note that it follows the structure of an abstract, with elaboration on each sentence.

1. **Introduction** - Open with a description of what you'll be doing for your research project. State the problem, puzzle, or project goal.
2. **Approach to your project** - Provide a description of how you'll complete your project.
  - Discuss your benchmarks and processes in detail as best you can.
  - Describe your deliverable, or final product(s) for the project.
3. **Timeline and benchmarks** – This section should be approximately one half-page, presented in table format.
  - What are the benchmarks for the project?
  - What is your timeline for meeting these benchmarks?
4. **Project and Housing Budget** – Discuss personal and research expenses needed for the summer, including and above the award amount of \$3,000. These can include, but are not limited to:
  - Supplies and materials not covered by your sponsoring lab
  - Travel for field research
  - Attendance at a relevant professional conference
  - Expected housing costs, and where you plan to live (on campus, in Worcester, or at a field site)
  - Personal expenses such as food, utilities, internet, etc.



## Edwin A. Weiller Summer Fellowship Program in the Sciences

- 5. Relevance to career goals** – discuss how this research will impact your future career goals.
- Describe your academic and career goals in the sciences.
  - Describe how this project will support or propel you toward those goals.
  - Note: This award is intended primarily for students with career goals in the research sciences.