



Sponsored by the University of Colorado at Boulder

**Biological Sciences Initiative
Bioscience Undergraduate Research Skills and Training Program
BURST
2008-2009 Academic Year Application**

BURST awards are available to undergraduates with little or no research background interested in gaining experience in a bioscience or bioscience-related research lab. Students work on projects under the guidance of a faculty member. Preference for awards is given to sophomores and juniors.

Eligibility extends to currently enrolled full-time CU Boulder students who have a minimum 2.0 GPA. Students who have graduated before the start of the BURST award or plan to graduate during the term of the award are not eligible. Students earn \$9.00/hour and can apply for a grant up to \$2,500 for the academic year. Scheduled time in the lab will be determined by the student and the faculty mentor; however, a typical work week is usually between 10-20 hours.

Students: As a requirement of this award, you are expected to participate in various professional development seminars and activities throughout the year. These *skills and trainings* are designed to both inform and enrich the undergraduate research experience. To start the program, students will attend a **mandatory orientation that will be held Saturday September 27th, 2008**. *Students who are not available to attend the orientation will not be able to participate in the BURST program.* During this orientation, BSI will go over program information, lab organization, keeping a lab notebook, experimental design, safety and more. During the year, students will attend scientific writing sessions that will culminate in students writing a research proposal due to our office in May. Lastly, students will be required to complete various evaluations of both the individual sessions and the entire program.

Important notes:

Due to the limited availability of research funding for undergraduates on campus, students may not receive a BURST award in addition to another source of wages, such as a UROP or departmental grant, for their research.

Background Check - *The University of Colorado at Boulder is committed to providing a safe and productive learning and living community. To achieve that goal, we conduct background investigations for all final applicants being considered for employment. Background investigations include reference checks, a criminal history record check, and when appropriate, a financial and/or motor vehicle history.* Students will not be accepted into the program until BSI receives an approved background check from Human Resources.

Faculty: As a requirement of this award, you are expected to attend a mentor training session. This training, mandatory for all graduate students and post-docs who oversee the day-to-day training of undergraduates, is designed to create a meaningful mentor/mentee relationship. The training will provide participants with the *skills and training* on designing meaningful research projects for undergraduates and on orienting their mentees to the lab. In addition, mentors will receive information on recommended strategies for working with students; will receive tips for issue management and conflict resolution; and will receive information on campus resources.

To apply, please complete the application and return it to Dr. Lynn Wolfe, MCDB A1B29, by 1:00 p.m., Wednesday September 10th, 2008. Questions about the program can be directed to BSI@colorado.edu.

Faculty/Lab Information:

Lab PI(s): _____ Department: _____

Email address(es) _____ Campus Box: _____

Day-to-day student mentor (if different from PI) _____

Email address _____ lab phone _____

Mentor is a (please check one): graduate student postdoctoral fellow
 Faculty member Other (please specify) _____

Student Information:

Name: _____ Major: _____

Expected Graduation date: _____ (month, yr) GPA: _____

Ethnicity (optional): _____ Gender: Male Female

Year in school as of September 2008: (freshman, sophomore, etc.) _____

Email address: _____

Are you receiving Financial Aid based on need?

Are you a first-generation college student? yes no

Have you ever (or do you currently) worked for any CU office or department? _____

If yes, please include your CU employee ID (if known) _____
(appears on paystub)

Current Address: _____

City State Zip

Permanent Address: _____

City State Zip

Current Phone # _____ Permanent Phone #: _____

To be completed by the Faculty Mentor in collaboration with the prospective student: (Please complete on separate sheets and attach to application)

1. Project title.
2. Please describe the research in your laboratory.
3. Please describe the project the student research assistant will be assisting with and what their responsibilities will be.
4. Please indicate which of the following trainings the student will require for his/her project: animal care, hazardous material, radiation safety.
5. a) How do you view your role as a mentor and what can the student expect of you?
b) What do you expect from the student as a research assistant?
6. Who will have the primary responsibility of working with and training the student research assistant and what are her/his qualifications? How will this student be integrated into your lab?
7. Beginning and end dates of proposed research: _____
(Possible dates range from: September 29, 2008 to May 1, 2009)
Based on the hourly wage of \$9/hr, please calculate the total award you are requesting below:
$$\$9.00 \times \text{_____ (hrs per week)} \times \text{_____ (weeks)} = \text{BURST grant request } \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

(amount must not exceed \$2,500)

To be completed by the student:

8. Please address the following points in an essay format.
 - What is your motivation for doing research?
 - Why do you wish to do research in this lab or participate in this type of research?
 - How would research experience fit in with your future goals?
9. Describe your past work/volunteer experiences (may include high school and/or college). What specific things did you contribute as an employee or volunteer? What specific things about your work/volunteer experience did you find rewarding?
10. What (if any) experience do you have in a research laboratory?
11. Will you have any other job this year (paid or volunteer)? If yes, how many hours will you work per week?
12. Please list the courses you are taking this fall, with meeting days and times.
13. Have you applied for any other opportunity that would prevent you from beginning or finishing BURST? Please describe.
14. Have you applied for any other source of funding for your research? If so, please describe.

Undergraduates awarded this opportunity will need to attend the mandatory orientation and workshop series. Failure to attend these sessions may result in expulsion from the program.

In addition, students will undergo a background check before final acceptance into the program.

Graduate students/post-docs/lab technicians who oversee the day-to-day activities of the undergraduate mentees are required to attend the mandatory mentor training. Failure to attend may result in the exclusion of this lab from further BURST student sponsorship.

We have read the requirements of this program and agree to its terms.

Mentor

Student

The application deadline for Academic Year 2008-09 is 1:00 pm on Wednesday September 10th, 2008.

Turn in applications in person to Dr. Lynn Wolfe, MCDB A1B29 or drop them off in the dropbox labeled "BSI" outside the door of MCDB A1B29.