



Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre
ATLANTIC VETERINARY COLLEGE • UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

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Guidelines:

2021 Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre Veterinary Student Research Award (SJDAWC VetSRA)

The Sir James Dunn Animal Welfare Centre (SJDAWC) at AVC provides internal funding to support undergraduate veterinary students with interest in animal welfare. A total of \$7,600.00 (\$6,600 for student support and \$1,000 for faculty research support) is available to support DVM student participation in research related to animal welfare. Funded projects should benefit animals (directly or indirectly), foster awareness about issues of animal welfare, and encourage leadership among students. The project will require a faculty supervisor and will be expected to generate a poster or publication.

In order to apply, students must have completed (as of start of research award) at least 1 year of DVM program, be available for 12 or more (depending on supervisor) consecutive weeks of research involvement (no holiday time) during the summer of 2020, be able to confirm a willing supervisor (faculty) at AVC, and agree to participate in the AVC Summer Research and Leadership Program (includes producing a scientific poster).

Awards are equivalent to approximately \$550 per week. The SJDAWC will provide the full student stipend (\$6,600), there is no requirement from the faculty supervisor to top up the fund (as there is for the AVC VetSRA program).

The adjudication will consider the applicant's academic performance, their letter of interest and their summary describing the benefits of the project to animal welfare. Only applications with acceptable faculty participation will be considered. Any student requiring assistance in identifying potential research supervisors should consult with the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, Dr. Larry Hammell (lhammell@upei.ca) or the SJDAWC Director, Dr. Katy Proudfoot (kproudfoot@upei.ca) as early in the planning process as possible.

Faculty are encouraged to identify external sources for research support (i.e. student stipend top-up and research operating funds). Faculty are also encouraged to extend the student longer than 12 weeks using other sources of funds.

Students and their faculty supervisors can opt to have their applications included in AVC VetSRA program if unsuccessful in the SJDAWC VetSRA competition. **Only one application is required for students to be included in both competitions.**

Application process:

1. Visit the AVC SRLP website, download and complete the SJDAWC Application Form Part I (student)
2. Based on your area of interest, approach suitable supervisors and seek information on potential research projects for which you will take an active role in planning and completion to a logical and reasonable endpoint (e.g. that will be suitable for a poster presentation at the end of the program).
3. Prepare a letter (max 1 page) outlining your research project objectives and how you would benefit from this research award. This letter is the same as you would submit for the AVC VetSRA program. In the letter, you should show an understanding of the research project and comment on how this experience will further your veterinary career and professional objectives. Students should also comment on previous research experience and how it has contributed to your scholarly achievements.
4. Prepare a summary (max 250 words) including a description about how the project will benefit animal welfare, directly or indirectly. If you need assistance summarizing the importance of your project to animal welfare, consult with your supervisor and/or email the SJDAWC Director, Katy Proudfoot (kproudfoot@upei.ca).
5. Submit the completed SJDAWC Application Form - Part 1 (Student), your letter of intent, your summary about the animal welfare impacts of the project, and a CV. These documents and the SJDAWC Application Form – Part 2 (Supervisor) must be received by the AVC Graduate Studies and Research Office by Monday, February 1, 2021 at 8:30 am. If you choose to be included in the AVC VetSRA program check the box in the SJDAWC Application Form – Part 2 (Supervisor). You will also be considered for NSERC-USRA provided the supervisor criteria are met. If you are eligible for USRA (i.e. NSERC eligible project with a tenure track faculty member), then you will be asked to submit further documentation at a later date. Please see the AVC VetSRA application for more information.
6. Adjudication will consider student academic performance, the letter of intent, and the summary about animal welfare equally.