



CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY
**OFFICE OF STUDENT RESEARCH
AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY**

CNU Summer Scholars Program 2025 Request for Proposals

The Christopher Newport University's Summer Scholars Program is an eight (8) week, in-residence, summer program for students and faculty to collaboratively work on a faculty-derived research question. The program will run June 2 – July 26, 2025, coinciding with the Summer I and Summer II academic terms. Program participants will work collaboratively with a CNU faculty member and be a part of a summer community of scholars. The goals of the program are to develop enhanced research and communication skills, provide opportunities to become better acquainted with Tribble Library's scholarly resources, and expand inquiry and problem-solving capabilities.

A taxable stipend of \$6000 will be awarded to all student participants who meet all the attendance and research requirements of the program; in addition, all students are eligible for the discounted housing rate of \$30/day. Students also receive a small printing budget.

Eligibility:

Current CNU freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors with an anticipated graduation date of December of 2025 or later are eligible to apply for this program. Students must be in good standing both at time of application and during the program duration. During the length of the program, student research fellows will be expected to work 40 hours a week and will not be permitted to work elsewhere at CNU. *Faculty are permitted to sponsor one Summer Scholar student per year.*

Application:

Applications must contain a completed application form and all required attachments. The form can be found <https://cnu.edu/research/summerscholars/>. All completed applications must include the following information:

1. Application Form
2. Cover letter written by student (and unedited by faculty collaborator) detailing how the proposed work will impact the student's future.
3. Project Abstract
4. Full Proposal/Narrative (written for a general audience) including Bibliography
5. Project Timeline
6. Copy of student's unofficial CNU transcript
7. Letter of recommendation from faculty collaborator: In addition to addressing the capabilities of the student, this letter should address the level of involvement of both the faculty member and student in the writing of the proposal (may be sent separate from the student application via email to orca@cnu.edu).

Completed applications must be submitted via email, as a single PDF, to orca@cnu.edu, no later than 5 pm (EST) on February 7, 2025. Questions should be addressed to Dr. David A. Salomon (david.salomon@cnu.edu).

Proposal Evaluation Criteria:

Proposals will be evaluated by several reviewers across academic disciplines, therefore, please refrain from using discipline-specific jargon. The proposals will be rated on the following criteria:

- Is the project proposal clear, cohesive, and well-written?
- To what extent does the proposed work have a clear and specific research question or inspiration?
- Does the student-faculty collaborative team make a compelling argument for the impact of their research or creative outcome?
- To what extent is the outlined approach feasible?
- Ability of student to work collaboratively with faculty member to complete proposed project.

Applicants will select whether they wish their proposal to be scored against the Research Rubric or the Creative Activity Rubric.

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