

Master's-Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement (MUSE)

College of Science and Health

MUSE supports DePaul undergraduate students to conduct research or other creative activities with the guidance of a Master's level CSH student or Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) student mentor. The project may be based on the graduate student's thesis or DNP Project. MUSE also aims to facilitate undergraduate student retention and support for students from diverse, underrepresented groups.

This program contributes to the visibility and value graduate programs add to undergraduate student learning and training and positively influences student success by providing meaningful experiences, developing mentoring relationships, and linking scholarship and teaching at DePaul University.

FEATURES OF THE MUSE AWARD

➤ Funding of \$2,000 per pair of students for the program year. Specifically, **\$1,000 is awarded to each student**. Funds may be used to cover research costs, supplies, travel for conference presentations, or other expenses.

ELIGIBILITY

Undergraduate student: Has completed at least 16 quarter hours of courses at DePaul; has a cumulative DePaul GPA of 2.75 or higher (current unofficial transcript will be reviewed); and has a declared College of Science and Health major.

Master's student: Has completed at least one (1) quarter of graduate school at DePaul in a terminal Master's degree-granting program or Doctor of Nursing Practice program (DNP) from the College of Science and Health and has support from a faculty mentor for the project.

Student matches across programs or majors are accepted. Undergraduate and graduate student graduation should be no earlier than the following June (approximately one year) after the program term begins.

FORMING A MUSE PARTNERSHIP

Undergraduate and graduate students need to recruit and select a partner with shared research interests. They should discuss roles, learning goals, and timeline prior to applying for this mentorship program. Each MUSE pair will seek a faculty sponsor, who will oversee the project and mentoring relationship. Each student and the faculty sponsor will complete an application appropriate for their role.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND REVIEW CRITERIA

- **Applications are due March 1. To be considered, the undergraduate and graduate MUSE applications and faculty sponsorship must be in by the deadline. Late proposals will not be accepted.** Mentoring for the program will begin in early Spring quarter following notification of the award.
- Applications will be evaluated based on the quality, feasibility, and potential importance of the research project as well as on the completeness and readability of the application. Priority will be given to partnerships that include undergraduate students who identify as being from an underrepresented minority group. Meaningful roles and learning goals should be identified for the undergraduate mentee. Roles are flexible and may include literature review, data collection, coding, assistance with experiments, data entry, and/or writing. A realistic timeline and mentorship plan should also be developed.

EXPECTATIONS OF AWARDEES

1. Both awardees are required to present at the CSH Undergraduate STEM Research Showcase and any other unit-level forum. Presentations at regional and/or national conferences in your field are encouraged. Publications in *DePaul Discoveries* or a journal in your field is also encouraged.
2. Each awardee submits a MUSE evaluation form reflecting upon their experience, learning goals achieved, and accomplishments by **March 1** of the following year. Mentors complete the [Graduate student evaluation](#) while mentees complete the [Undergraduate student evaluation](#).

All eligible undergraduate and graduate students may be part of one (1) MUSE research collaborative per academic year, and funding priority will be given to new applicants.

Research projects involving human or animal participants will require **IRB, IACUC, or IBC approval. Funding is contingent upon such approval, if required.** For further information or questions, please contact CSHResearch@depaul.edu.

Revised February 18, 2025