

MICROBIOLOGY AWARDS

Each year the Department of Microbiology solicits applications/nominations for awards to be granted to undergraduate students **majoring in Microbiology** who have completed at least one 400-level micro course. Please read through the following descriptions of these awards so that you know the options available to you and when to apply. *Note that in the descriptions below, “junior year” and “junior status” refer only to a student's progress towards a microbiology degree; in other words, a microbiology major with 170 credits could still be considered a junior if he/she needs another year to complete the microbiology degree requirements.*

Three awards are given to deserving students at the end of their junior year who have demonstrated a commitment to a microbiology-related career, have excelled academically, and/or have financial need:

- The **Don Bassett Award** is given on behalf of the Bassett family to honor the late Don Bassett, who was an undergraduate in the Department of Microbiology.
- The **Jacques M. Chiller Award** is given on behalf of the family of the late Dr. Jacques M. Chiller, who was a graduate student in the Department of Microbiology.
- The **Charles Evans Award** was established to honor Dr. Evans, a former chair of the Department of Microbiology.

A series of awards are given to encourage students to explore opportunities in undergraduate research in a microbiology laboratory:

- The **David Kingsbury Scholarship** was established by David Kingsbury to encourage students who have a passion for research. The student must have completed at least one quarter of undergraduate research by the end of Winter Quarter of his/her junior year and have plans to continue research through his/her senior year.
- The **Undergraduate Research Awards** help to support students doing undergraduate research. They are given to students with junior status who are currently engaged in undergraduate research and plan to complete at least three more quarters. The awards will be distributed to each recipient over three quarters.
- The **Interdisciplinary Summer Research Award** helps support a student doing summer research that integrates subjects or research methods from cellular and molecular biology with those of other natural sciences.

One award is given to student with the best undergraduate research thesis:

- The **Ordal Award** is given as a memorial to Professor Erling Ordal and recognizes the best undergraduate research thesis submitted each year. Part of the work must have been conducted under either Microm 499 or 495 (undergraduate/honors research). Projects conducted in full or in part during the previous 9 months will be considered. Submissions will be evaluated for the quality of both the research and the written report. *Information about applying for the Ordal Award will be sent out in a separate announcement.*

One award is given to encourage students to help others excel, particularly in the field of microbiology:

- The **Education Award** was established by the faculty of the Department of Microbiology to recognize a student who has helped others develop a passion for microbiology through teaching, organizing tutorial opportunities, volunteering in K-12 programs, or simply encouraging excellence.

To apply for the Basset, Chiller, and Evans awards as well as the David Kingsbury Scholarship, the Undergraduate Research Awards, and the Interdisciplinary Summer Research Award, complete the application on the link provided here ([link to form](#)). Completed applications for all the awards are due **April 14, 2025**.

Please note that for the Basset, Chiller, and Evans awards, you will be asked for the following:

1. Completed Bassett/Chiller/Evans Awards application form (accessed through link above).
2. A statement (not more than two pages, single-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12 pt Arial font) describing your background, academic accomplishments, and career goals and how you would benefit from the award. The Committee is also interested in the importance that teaching has had in your education, and what role, if any, it will play in future endeavors.
3. A copy of your transcript (an unofficial copy is fine).
4. The names and contact information (email address, mailing address, and phone number) of at least two references, along with your relationship (e.g., supervisor, teacher, etc.). References should be familiar with your academic performance and/or work performance.

To apply for the David Kingsbury Scholarship, the Undergraduate Research Awards, and the Interdisciplinary Summer Research Award you will be asked for the following:

1. Completed Kingsbury/Undergraduate Research/Interdisciplinary Summer Research Award application form (accessed through link above).
2. A statement (not more than two pages, single-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12 pt Arial font) that briefly describes your research project, an outline of goals for your senior year, and how you selected your research lab. If applicable, use a separate sheet (not more than ½ page, single-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12 pt Arial font) to briefly describe any interdisciplinary approaches that you plan to use while doing research this coming summer quarter.
3. A copy of your transcript (an unofficial copy is fine).
4. Completed Kingsbury/Undergraduate Research Award/Interdisciplinary Summer Research Award Mentor Summary form ([link to form](#)), filled out and sent by the head of the laboratory (principal investigator) directly to the Awards Committee.

For the Education Award, a faculty member, fellow student, or anyone else familiar with the student's work may nominate a candidate by submitting a short letter describing the nominee's contributions by **April 14th, 2025**. Students can also nominate themselves but must additionally submit the contact information for a reference who oversaw or helped with the activities. Use the following link (https://bit.ly/microeducn_25) to nominate a student for the Education Award.