



Donald B. Miller Student Research Fund Award Application Checklist

WHAT IS IT?

This Endowed Fund was established by Ed and Martha Miller in 2018 to honor Ed's brother using money inherited from Don's estate. The fund will support undergraduate research by students majoring in chemistry or biology-chemistry. An award in the amount of \$2200-\$4400 (\$11 per hour before taxes) will compensate a 200-400 hour undergraduate research experience of the student's choice (approval must be granted).

Don Miller, 1930-2016, graduated with distinction from Manchester College in 1952 with a B.A. in chemistry. He received his M.Sc. (1955) and Ph.D. (1957) from The Ohio State University. His Ph.D. research focused on the synthesis, structure, and chemistry of the photodimers of β -nitrostyrene

He was a polymer research chemist for Conoco in Ponca City, OK, (1957-1965) and Stanford Research Institute, Menlo Park, CA, (1965-1974). In 1975 he joined NASA—Ames Research Center where he worked on projects to determine concentrations of stratospheric ozone and nitric oxides. Finally, he relocated to Oregon State University in Corvallis where he worked on environmental projects in the departments of Sanitary Engineering, Oceanography, Soil Science, and Forest Products (wood preservation) until his retirement. His research resulted in over 30 patents and research publications.

In retirement, he enjoyed woodworking, travel, opera and symphony concerts, family genealogy, and environmental work with the Sierra Club.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Any Manchester University undergraduate student majoring in chemistry or biology-chemistry.
2. Research experiences must take place between May 2025 and August 2025, prior to graduation.
3. The research position must not have another associated stipend or wage.
4. The recipient must not have another research position during the proposed research time.
5. Off-campus research experiences are eligible, but those on Manchester University's campuses have priority.

APPLICATION

- Personal Statement:** Please write a 1-3 page essay that includes the following:
 - Explain why you want a research experience (include a brief description of your educational and career goals and how the research experience will help you accomplish those goals).
 - Explain in detail what type of research experience you are seeking. Address the following questions:
 - In what research area do you want to learn more?
 - Do you need research to fulfill a requirement?
 - What type of research will improve your marketability in your job or graduate school search?
 - What kind of research environment and type of organization do you prefer for the research?
 - If you have already arranged a research position, please describe it.
 - If you haven't already arranged such a position, what are your plans to contact specific researchers about potential positions?
 - List any other funding for research to which you are also applying.
 - Explain the skills and experience that you can bring to the research. Address the following questions:
 - Have you previously done research?
 - What scientific skills do you possess?
 - What relevant experience do you have in your potential research field?
 - What academic preparation do you bring to the research?
 - Propose a desired work timeline, including number of hours and approximate starting and ending dates.
- RÉSUMÉ:** Include an updated résumé with your application materials.
- FACULTY RECOMMENDATION FORM:** Have an MU faculty member (can be research professor) fill out and submit it.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Selected applicants for the award may be asked to have an interview with the selection committee.
2. Award recipients must secure a research experience position in their stated field by the established deadline. Failure to secure a research experience position will result in the loss of award funds. Pharmacy, Natural, & Health Science faculty can offer assistance, but award recipients are ultimately responsible for finding their own research experiences. Research experiences for which an award can be used are subject to approval.
3. Award recipients are required to schedule a research experience orientation with Biology-Chemistry Council faculty and sign a research experience agreement prior to starting work; remain in communication with the Biology-Chemistry Council throughout; complete a paper over their research; and give a presentation about their research experience at the Manchester University Student Research Symposium or other approved venue.
4. Award recipients must complete the agreed-upon amount of work at their research site between May 2025 – August 2025, prior to graduation.

APPLICATION DEADLINE AND NOTIFICATION

April 24	Application deadline for May 2025 – August 2025 cycle.
May 1	Notification of award recipients
May 8	Deadline for acceptance
May 31	Deadline to secure research position during May 2025 – August 2025.

Please submit all materials via email to:
Dr. Jeff Osborne (jposborne@manchester.edu)