

Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunities Programme in Science (UROPS) at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) (in-person)

Programme Overview

King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) is a leading public research university located in Thuwal, Saudi Arabia, which offers degree programmes in Biological and Environmental Sciences and Engineering; Computer, Electrical, and Mathematical Sciences and Engineering; and Physical Sciences and Engineering. Established in 2009, KAUST has one of the fastest growing research and citation records in the world.

A fully-funded programme, the KAUST Visiting Student Research Internship Program is an excellent opportunity for exceptional higher level undergraduates to conduct research with faculty mentors in selected areas of basic and applied research projects. The projects (found on [this website](#)) are offered by the Biological and Environmental Science and Engineering Division, Computer, Electrical and Mathematical Science and Engineering Division, as well as the Physical Science and Engineering Division. More details on these divisions can be found on <https://www.kaust.edu.sa/en/research/academic-divisions>.

For NUS students, please refer to the sections "Eligibility Criteria" and "Programme Application Procedure and Deadline" stated on this website instead, as you will need to be nominated by NUS.

Location

The programme will take place in Saudi Arabia.

Dates

The programme takes place from **13 May 2024 to 02 August 2024**. (Special Term Part 1 & 2, 12 weeks)

Credits

Students will be assessed according to KAUST's assessment criteria and receive a transcript issued by the institution. Credits obtained may be transferred to a 4 units LSM3288 and PC3288 for Life Sciences majors and Physics majors respectively.

For students taking a major in other areas, please check with your respective department's UROPS Coordinators for the mapping of the research project to a Level 2000/3000 UROPS. Please check the table attached to the email for your department's UROPS Coordinator's name and contact details. Do note that additional assessment may be required from the student by the NUS department for transferring of credits to a UROPS course. Otherwise, the 4 units will be counted towards Unrestricted Electives (UE).

For an on-site summer programme, students may apply for course mapping and transfer a maximum of 10 units.

Students can transfer a total of 12 units from a maximum of 2 overseas summer/winter programmes without having to pay tuition at NUS during their course of study. Any additional units mapped will be subjected to NUS Special Term fees.

[Credit transfer for online summer programmes is not allowed.](#)

Eligibility Criteria

NUS students must:

- Be a full-time Faculty of Science student.
- Have a clean disciplinary record.
- All Year 2 and Year 3 students may apply
- Preferably with a minimum GPA of 4.0
- Not intending to graduate at the end of AY23/24 Semester 2.
- Not be National Servicemen who are called up for In-Camp Training (ICT). Deferment letter will not be provided.
- Be fully vaccinated with one of the following vaccines:
 - 2 doses of Pfizer BioNTech, or
 - 2 doses of Oxford AstraZeneca, or
 - 2 doses of Moderna, or
 - 1 dose of Johnson and Johnson's Janssen, or
 - 2 Doses of Sinopharm vaccine and one dose of Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, or Janssen, or
 - 2 Doses of Sinovac vaccine and one dose of Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca, or Janssen.

Number of Places

There are **5 places** for this programme.

Programme Cost

Students do not need to pay NUS Special Term fees or tuition fees to KAUST if they do not exceed the credits transfer limit stated under the section "Credits" above.

Financial Assistance

Participants will receive the following benefits from KAUST:

- Stipend of USD1,000 per month
- Private Bedroom/Bathroom
- Visa and Airfare Fees

Please do not make your own arrangements for visa, flight and accommodations; KAUST will do the necessary arrangements.

Do note that due to the above benefits, participants will not be eligible to apply for NUS Awards for Study Abroad (NASA) Enhancement Scholarship/Bursary to support their participation in this programme.

Insurance

Medical Insurance will be covered by KAUST. However, their medical insurance DOES NOT cover COVID-19 related issues. i.e. if you unfortunately contract COVID-19 while on internship, the medical expenses will NOT be covered under their insurance.

You will be required to buy your own insurance to cover COVID-19 related issues, and send a copy of the policy as proof to KAUST before they make your travel arrangements.

All students travelling overseas for activities or purposes approved, endorsed, organised, sponsored or authorised by NUS will be covered by the NUS Student Travel Insurance Policy. Click [here](#) for more information.

Exclusions to the NUS Student Travel Insurance may apply. Students are to ensure that they have sufficient travel insurance coverage, and may consider purchasing additional travel insurance if required.

Programme Application Procedure and Deadline

Students are to contact the faculty members at KAUST for a research project and submit a proof of acceptance by the supervisor in a form of letter or email.

Next, login to Education Records System (EduRec) and submit your application under External Study Type “Research Attachment/Internship/Industrial Attachment”, External Study Setup ID: **02653**.

Please refer to [Guide for Student Programme Application](#) BEFORE your application. You will need to log on to [NUS WebVPN](#) before accessing the Guide and EduRec.

Please also submit the following documents to scisap@nus.edu.sg with the subject, “Overseas Summer Research 2023 – [Name of Partner University]”. The application and documents submission deadline is **14 January 2024, 2359hrs Singapore Time**.

Applications would be deemed incomplete even after submission if the required documents are not received by the stipulated deadline, and therefore disqualified from the application. To be fair to students who abide by the deadline, incomplete or late application will strictly not be considered.

Documents required (to be submitted via email):

1. Proof of acceptance by the faculty member/supervisor at KAUST in a form of a letter or email. If you are unable to secure a placement by the application deadline, please shortlist up to 2 supervisors and list them down in your personal statement.
2. Latest NUS unofficial transcript (downloadable from EduRec).
3. Curriculum Vitae. Highlight any prior research experience that you may have to support your application.
4. Statement of purpose, including your area of research interest/project, why you are interested in the mentioned area/project, etc.
5. One recommendation letter from a faculty member in field/s related to your major. Please ask your recommender to send the recommendation letter via softcopy to scisap@nus.edu.sg with the subject ‘Summer UROPS Application_Name_Partner University’ for the Partner University you are applying for.
6. Vaccination Certificate

Contact Details

If you have any questions, please submit your enquiry via the MS Form [here](#).