



## 2025 Research Day at the Capitol Guidelines



### Call for Applications - Oklahoma State University Undergraduate Students

#### I. General Information

Research Day at the Capitol was established 30 years ago to showcase the outstanding undergraduate research being conducted at Oklahoma's colleges and universities in the areas of science (including social science), technology, engineering, and mathematics. The prestigious event is sponsored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Oklahoma Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (OK EPSCoR), and the National Science Foundation. Oklahoma State University is allowed to nominate **four** undergraduates for this event.

The 2025 Research Day at the Capitol event includes two rounds of judging and encompasses multiple activities. All nominees will submit a video presentation component for the first round of judging. Based solely on the judging of the video presentation, students will be selected to continue to the second round. Note: Not all students will be selected to present their poster at the Capitol for the second round of judging. The second round of judging takes place in-person on Monday, April 14, 2025. During this round, students' posters and oral presentations will be individually judged (typically during the afternoon at a location in Oklahoma City), with competition results determined from the live poster presentations. On Tuesday, April 15, 2025, students selected for the second round will meet with legislators at the State Capitol building and share their research during a poster exhibit from 7:30 a.m. – noon, and poster competition winners will be announced during an awards ceremony.

#### II. Eligible Applicants

- The student must be a legal resident of Oklahoma.
- The student must be enrolled as an undergraduate at Oklahoma State University for the entirety of the 2024-2025 academic year.
- The student's research must have originated from and been conducted at Oklahoma State University in the fields of science (including social science), technology, engineering, or mathematics.
- Priority will be given to students with prior experience presenting a poster at a research conference or symposium. (This may be internal to OSU or at a professional conference.)
- The student **MUST** attend all sessions indicated below. Waivers will not be granted; make-up dates will not be scheduled.
  1. First-Round Informational Training Session (presented via video): View in entirety by *November 4, 2024, 11:59 p.m.*
  2. Second-Round Informational Training Session\* (presented via video); View in entirety by *February 28, 2025, 11:59 p.m.*
  3. Judging Session\*: *Monday, April 14, 2025, noon – 5:00 p.m.* at a location in Oklahoma City. Students' posters and oral presentations will be judged during an individually scheduled time. Only students may participate in this session. Competition winners will be announced during an awards ceremony at the State Capitol the following day.

4. Research Day at the Capitol Activities\*: *Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 7:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.* Student posters will be on exhibit in the State Capitol Rotunda, and students will meet with legislators and Capitol guests.
5. Awards Ceremony\*: *Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 11:30 a.m. – noon.* Competition winners will be announced during an awards ceremony. The top student researchers will be awarded the following:
  - Over-all Grand Prize: \$500 award plus \$4,000 summer research internship; \$2,500 award to the sponsoring OK college/university lab to offset internship hosting expenses.
  - First Place (\$500), Second Place (\$250), and Third Place (\$250) prizes will be awarded in each of these categories: (1) Research Intensive Institutions and (2) Regional, Community, and Tribal Colleges.

\*Required for those students who are selected to advance to the second round.

### III. **Application** – submitted online [here](#)

- a. Completed application form
- b. Abstract – 350 words or less; **MUST** include the following components:
  - 1) Student's Name
  - 2) Abstract Title
  - 3) Introduction
  - 4) Methods
  - 5) Results
  - 6) Conclusion
  - 7) Relevance of the Study

*Separate/individual sections are not required for items #3-7, but each component **must be** addressed in the body of the abstract.*

- c. Statement of Commitment – from faculty mentor  
As a separate document, the faculty mentor will provide a short paragraph describing their continued commitment to preparing the student for and attending the Research Day at the Capitol.

#### **Additional Abstract Guidelines:**

- Abstracts must be the work of the student and cannot exceed 350 words.
- Abstracts must be uploaded as part of the [online application form](#).
- Abstracts will **ONLY** be accepted in MS Word format (.doc or .docx); no PDF or image files are allowed.
- Name the abstract document using the student's name using this format:  
lastname\_firstname\_abstract.docx

### IV. **Evaluation Criteria**

- a. Applicants will be assessed to ensure eligibility criteria are met.
- b. Abstracts will be reviewed and scored by a selection committee for scientific merit and societal impact.

- c. Consideration will also be given for faculty commitment to the mentorship of the applicant through the entire process.

**V. Application Deadline and Notification Timeline**

- Applications are due **Monday, July 1, 2024** by 11:59 pm.
- Applications will ONLY be accepted via the [online application form](#).
- The four students selected to represent Oklahoma State University, and their faculty mentors, will be notified in early-mid August. At that time, further information will be requested, and certain forms will require signature.