



2023 SPARK Grant Research Application and Approval Form

Please make sure that you have all of the following information **before** applying for your SPARK grant. Research Experiences require commitment from a faculty mentor at Nazareth College and start/end dates determined in order to be eligible for the grant.

1. Student Information:

Student's Name: _____

Student ID: _____

2. Faculty Mentor Information:

Mentor's Name: _____

Title: _____

Department: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

3. Project Start Date: ____/____/____ End Date: ____/____/____

4. Project Title: _____

5. **Project Abstract:** Please provide a brief description of the project and the research question you hope to explore in this experience.

6. **Will the research be conducted on campus or off campus?:** (Note: off-campus research still requires a Faculty Mentor at Nazareth)

On Campus – Please state where on campus _____

Off Campus – Please state where _____

6.a. (For off-campus research only) Please provide the name of your off-campus research supervisor, the name of the research program you will participate in, and a link (if applicable) to the research opportunity

6.b. (For off-campus research only) Have you already been accepted into this program?

- Yes (please include proof of acceptance with this application)
- No (if no, please state when you expect to hear about your status) _____

7. Is the research experience compensated?

- Yes (the only compensation student would receive is the SPARK grant)
 - No (if no, please indicate amount of compensation and method of payment)
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8. Student Role: (Describe the specific job duties, expectations, and project work that will take place)

9. Course Enrollment:

All SPARK Research experiences will include an online course component. This online-only course will take place over Summer A and B and will take approximately 1-2hrs. of time commitment a week. Credit hours for this experience are based on your overall research project hours.

Which course for academic credit and/or fulfillment of Major/EL requirements will you complete? For more information, discuss these options with your Faculty Mentor and Career Coach

- OCL 373: Research Exploration – 1-Credit Research
(For projects consisting of 50 hours of research)
- OCL 373: Research Exploration – 2-Credit Research
(For projects consisting of 80 hours of research)
- OCL 472: Research Experience – 3-Credit Research
(*Rising juniors only.* For projects consisting of 120+ hours of research)

10. Learning Outcomes:

The Council on Undergraduate Research, founded in 1978, is a national organization of individual and institutional members representing more than 900 colleges and universities. CUR defines undergraduate research as, “An inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline.” (www.cur.org)

Undergraduate research is linked to a number of learning outcomes essential in undergraduate studies. A goal of the SPARK grant is to allow for flexibility while also ensuring the student has an authentic experience leading incorporating at least some of these learning domains. **In order for your research experience to be eligible for a SPARK Grant, it must be able to address at least 4 of the learning outcomes outlined below:**

1. **Relating knowledge to daily life:** Seeks new information to solve problems; relates knowledge to major and career decisions; makes connections between classroom and out-of-classroom learning; articulates career choices based on assessment of interests, values, skills, and abilities; provides evidence of knowledge, skills, and accomplishments resulting from formal education, work experience, community service, and volunteer experiences, for example in resumes and portfolios.
2. **Critical thinking:** Identifies important problems, questions, and issues; analyzes, interprets, and makes judgments of the relevance and quality of information; assesses assumptions and considers alternative perspectives and solutions
3. **Reflective thinking:** Applies previously understood information, concepts, and experiences to a new situation or setting; rethinks previous assumptions
4. **Effective reasoning:** Uses complex information from a variety of sources including personal experience and observation to form a decision or opinion; is open to new ideas and perspectives.
5. **Commitment to ethics and integrity:** Incorporates ethical reasoning into action; explores and articulates the values and principles involved in personal decision-making; acts in congruence with personal values and beliefs; exemplifies dependability, honesty, and trustworthiness; accepts personal accountability.
6. **Collaboration:** Works cooperatively with others, including people different from self and/or with different points of view; seeks and values the involvement of others; listens to and considers others' points of view.
7. **Understanding and appreciation of cultural and human differences:** Understands one's own identity and culture; seeks involvement with people different from oneself; articulates the advantages and impact of a diverse society; identifies systematic barriers to equality and inclusiveness, then advocates and justifies means for dismantling them; in interactions with others, exhibits respect and preserves the dignity of others.
8. **Social responsibility:** Recognizes social systems and their influence on people; appropriately challenges the unfair, unjust, or uncivil behavior of other individuals or groups; participates in service/volunteer activities that are characterized by reciprocity; articulates the values and principles involved in personal decision-making; affirms and values the worth of individuals and communities.
9. **Pursuing goals:** Sets and pursues individual goals; articulates rationale for personal and educational goals and objectives; articulates and makes plans to achieve long-term goals and objectives; identifies and works to overcome obstacles that hamper goal achievement.
10. **Communicating effectively:** Conveys meaning in a way that others understand by writing and speaking coherently and effectively; writes and speaks after reflection; influences others through writing, speaking or artistic expression; effectively articulates abstract ideas; uses appropriate syntax and

grammar; makes and evaluates presentations or performances; listens attentively to others and responds appropriately.

- 11. **Managing career development:** Takes steps to initiate a job search or seek advanced education; constructs a resume based on clear job objectives and with evidence of knowledge, skills, and abilities; recognizes the importance of transferrable skills.
- 12. **Demonstrating professionalism:** Accepts supervision and direction as needed; values the contributions of others; holds self accountable for obligations; shows initiative; assesses, critiques, and then improves the quality of one's work and one's work environment.

Please select at least 4 of the CUR Learning and Developmental Outcomes with your mentor and discuss how your research experience will help you grow in that area.

Learning Outcome #1: _____

I will work towards this outcome in my research by _____

Learning Outcome #2: _____

I will work towards this outcome in my research by _____

Learning Outcome #3: _____

I will work towards this outcome in my research by _____

Learning Outcome #4: _____

I will work towards this outcome in my research by _____

11. Risk Assessment (Does this research pose a risk to the student? How are these risks mitigated? What additional resources are required? Is the department committed to providing the additional resources?)

12. Signatures:

Your signature indicates that you agree to mentor the student in the position described and that you are committed to sponsoring this student in the next year's CARS event.

Faculty Mentor's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Student's signature indicates that he/she agrees to the details outlined in this document.

Student's Signature: _____

Date: _____