

Student Research Day 2026 Submission Guidelines

Purpose

Student Research Day showcases and celebrates the faculty-mentored scholarly and creative achievements of MacEwan University students across all Faculties, Schools, and disciplines. It is intended to foster a teaching and learning environment that supports critical and innovative thinking as part of a flourishing and robust scholarly culture. Student Research Day provides students with the opportunity to develop presentation skills that may support graduate school applications and prepare them for future careers in academia, the public/private sector, creative industries, and the community.

Participation

The eligibility guidelines to participate in Student Research Day are as follows:

- Any current or recently graduated MacEwan student with a faculty mentor may participate (within 18 months of graduation date). Faculty mentors must be a current MacEwan faculty member who can validate your presentation.
- Students may present on projects completed at MacEwan University. This includes work completed as an Undergraduate Student Research Initiative (USRI) grant recipient, a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Undergraduate Student Research Award recipient, an Alberta Innovates Summer Research Studentships recipient, a Mitacs intern, a Capstone student, an undergraduate research assistant, an Honours student and/or work completed as part of coursework or independent studies.
- Presentations and projects should list the student as the first author.

Presentation Format

Presentations may be for a range of projects including, but not limited to: honours thesis, independent study, other coursework, research assistant work (paid or volunteer), community service learning, community-based research, business cases, art and design creation, music compositions and performances, clinical research, scientific experiments, and other scholarly or creative work done as part of a program's goals and objectives. Presentations should address the aim of the project and what is important about the results.

All contributors and funding sources for projects should be visibly acknowledged (e.g., faculty mentors, community or industry partners, USRI Grant Fund, SSHRC, NSERC, Alberta Arts Council, etc.). Presentations should also indicate animal and/or human research ethics approval if applicable.

All presentation materials (posters, PowerPoints, abstracts, other modalities) should list the student as the **first author**.

Students are limited to three (3) first-author presentations.

While we do our best to avoid scheduling conflicts, students with more than three presentations or those participating in multiple presentations are not guaranteed conflict-free time slots.

**The first author is the undergraduate student who serves as the main applicant and researcher for a solo project, or as the submitter for a group project.*

1. **Oral Presentations** – Oral presentations may include spoken summaries of original research or scholarly projects. Each presenter will deliver a 15–to 20–minute talk, including a question-and-answer period, within the allotted time. **Presentation durations are determined by academic departments; please consult with your faculty mentor if you are unsure about the time duration of your presentation.** Presentations may include the use of supporting documents and visual aids such as PowerPoint slides, performance materials, or other modalities such as Canva, Piktochart, or other visual aid programs. If desired, tips and strategies are available here: [MacEwan University library](#).
2. **Poster Presentations** – Poster Presentations may include visual displays of original research or creative projects. Presenters will summarize their work on a printed poster and discuss their findings with attendees during designated session times. There will be two scholarly poster sessions.. Students will be expected to stand with their posters at their assigned time and to interact with people interested in their scholarly work. Posters cannot be larger than 36” tall by 48” wide. If desired, tips and strategies are available here: [MacEwan University library](#). **The Office of Research Services will cover the cost of up to \$100 for poster(s) printed through MacEwan Print Services. Please ensure you review the [printing guidelines](#) carefully before submitting your request.**
3. **Creative Installations or Performances** – Creative installations or performances may include various forms of original scholarship in the arts, such as fine art, design, theatre, or music composition. A detailed description of the student’s proposed installation or presentation should be included in the application abstract. Students should include, in their application under “Technical Requirements or Special Considerations”, other relevant information such as dimensions, space, and technical requirements after consulting with their faculty mentor.
4. **Project Displays and Other Showcases of Scholarly Activity** – Project displays may include visual or interactive exhibits that showcase applied research, designs, models, or prototypes. Presenters may include posters, materials, or demonstrations to explain their project’s goals, process, and outcomes. A detailed description of a proposed display or other showcase should be included in the application abstract/artist statement. Students should include in their application, under “Technical Requirements or Special Considerations”, other relevant information such as dimensions, space, and technical requirements. **Project displays may be eligible for coverage of printing services up to \$100 through MacEwan Print Services. For more information, please refer to the [printing guidelines](#).**

Application Information

Applications will be open from January 5 to March 9, 2026. Applications should be submitted using the application form found on [MacEwan.ca/StudentResearchDay](https://macewan.ca/StudentResearchDay). Applications will be reviewed for approval shortly after the application deadline.

Please note, the work you are applying to present does not need to be completed by the submission deadline. The completion date is set by your faculty mentor, but all work should be ready to be presented by April 16, 2026. Students are advised to be available to present at any time on the event day, as specific scheduling requests are not guaranteed.

If you have questions about the application guidelines, application form, or need to request a change to a submitted working title or abstract/artist statement, please email srd@macewan.ca.