

2016 Dr. John Archer Library Award FAQs



What is it?

This \$1,000 award was established in 2012 for one full-time undergraduate student from the University of Regina or the three federated colleges (Campion College, First Nations University of Canada, Luther College). The student must demonstrate written evidence of significant inquiry using the Library's resources and services along with learning about the research and information-gathering and citing process for their graded course project. The award is given based upon comments in a one page reflective library essay and not the graded research project.

When will the award be given?

Librarians will choose a recipient and notify the Student Awards and Financial Aid (SAFA) before the end of regularly scheduled classes in the Winter Semester. The library will publically acknowledge the recipient after SAFA has notified the student.

How can I apply for the award?

Applications for the award are available at SAFA's Student Awards and Management System <http://www.uregina.ca/safa/awards/SAMS/index.html>. Complete the award's application form, submit a 250-500 word reflective essay (guidelines are on the other side of this page), a copy of your graded research project, and a vetted memo from the instructor who graded your assignment, and send to SAFA. SAFA staff can also answer questions about the application package. The Library has information about the award at http://www.uregina.ca/library/about_contact/library_information/library-award.html. Library staff will not provide assistance with the application or writing the reflective essay. Contact Michael Shires with general questions about the award (Michael.Shires@uregina.ca) or call 585.5418.

What is the deadline for the award?

Winter Semester Awards Deadline Submission (February 1, 2016). SAFA will begin accepting applications early in the Winter 2016 semester.

Who is eligible to apply for the award?

The award will be given to one undergraduate student who meets the following criteria:

- Write a one page reflective essay that shows evidence of significant inquiry using the Library's resources and services. Students should also be able to describe their experience in the research and information-gathering process for completing their research project.
- Pursuing a Bachelor degree in any faculty or program (including Distance Education).
- Registered in a minimum of 12 credit hours in the semester the project is completed.
- Registration is not required in the semester in which the award is presented.
- Research project must have been completed in the previous Fall, Winter, or Spring/Summer semester.
- Must be the sole author and have received a minimum grade of 70% for the research project in a course that was completed for credit.
- Submit original or copy of the research project.
- Must agree to provide the Library with a copy of the project for placement in oURspace (University of Regina's institutional repository) <http://ourspace.uregina.ca/handle/10294/5336> and, possibly, housing in a public exhibit space in the Library. License conditions for deposited materials must be agreed upon as well <http://ourspace.uregina.ca/about?licenses>.

Note: students who received financial assistance (e.g.: grant, research assistantship, etc.) to support the associated research project are eligible to receive this award.

2016 Dr. John Archer Library Award Reflective Essay Guidelines



Below are questions to consider and perhaps address when writing the Dr. John Archer Library Award reflective essay. The essay (between 250 and 500 words) is part of the award application and must be submitted to the Student Awards and Financial Aid (SAFA). Library staff will not provide assistance with completing the award application or writing the reflective essay.

1. How did you think about and refine your research topic?
2. What specific strategies did you develop for finding relevant information?
3. What specific library search tools did you use, and why?
4. What [library services](#) (e.g. [Help Desk/Reference assistance](#), [Interlibrary Loan](#), [Archives & Special Collections](#), [Spatial and Numeric Data Services](#), [Subject Guides](#)) did you take advantage of, and how did these services and resources support your research?
5. Did you have trouble finding some types or formats of information and, if so, how did you overcome this challenge?
6. Did your assumptions about what information would be available change throughout the research process?
7. Did you have reasons for not selecting specific resources, even though they appeared promising?
8. What did you learn about finding information on your topic or in your discipline? Was it necessary to move outside your discipline to find sufficient sources?
9. How much did the sources you used provide support for your thesis or conclusions?
10. How did you balance the evidence that you found?
11. What did you learn about your own research process and style?
12. What expertise have you gained as a researcher?
13. What do you still need to learn?
14. What would you change about your strategies and process if given another chance to conduct this research?
15. Which individuals (faculty, librarians, archivists, reference assistants, etc.) provided significant assistance with the research gathering process and what did they do?

Remember to submit the following documents to SAFA:

- Dr. John Archer Library Award Application <http://www.uregina.ca/safa/awards/SAMS/index.html>
- One page library reflective essay
- Copy of your graded major research project
- Signed and dated memo from your professor who graded your research project