Dear College of Engineering Students,

Are you looking for an opportunity to conduct original, innovative, and challenging research before you graduate? The College of Engineering [**Davidson Student Scholars**](https://www.sjsu.edu/engineering/research/research-initiatives.php) initiative provides an exciting opportunity for you to do so! And you earn a monetary award upon successful completion of your research!

You’ll need to reach out to a faculty mentor (from an academic department in the College of Engineering) in the area of your research interest. Faculty and their areas of research are listed on each department webpage. You may discuss the opportunity with one or more potential mentors, but in your application, you should identify one primary faculty mentor and agree with him/her on a creative research thesis/project topic of mutual interest. The thesis option is open only to graduate students. The research project option is open to all undergraduate and graduate students.

**Eligibility**

You’re eligible to apply if you did not participate in this initiative before. Your research needs to start in Fall 2025 (or Spring 2026) and is expected to be completed by the end of Spring 2026 (or Fall 2026 for those starting Spring 2026). You are NOT eligible if you started your research or thesis in Spring 2025 or earlier and expect to complete by Fall 2025.

**Team Size**

Individual or team projects are allowed provided that an undergraduate team stays within the senior project team size limit and a graduate team stays within the MS project team size limit, set by your department.

**Award Amount**

The award is to be granted *after* successful completion of the proposed research. Selected students will be identified as **AY2025-26 Davidson Student Scholars**. The award amount is $3,000 for completing an M.S. thesis or $1,500 for completing an academic year long undergraduate or graduate research project.

In addition, up to $300 in implementation costs will be reimbursed after completion of the thesis/project. Example acceptable cost items include hardware components for constructing prototypes, and material necessary for laboratory experiments that’s not readily available in the lab. *Any purchases need the pre-approval of your advisor*. Example unacceptable supplies include textbooks, tablets, laptops, software already available on computers of the CoE labs, etc.

**Proposal Review**

You’ll need to work closely with your mentor to generate a research proposal. Please follow the instructions in the attached [**Template**](https://www.sjsu.edu/engineering/docs/research/Template_F25.docx) document to do so. Also read the attached [**Proposal Guidelines**](https://www.sjsu.edu/engineering/docs/research/Proposal_Guidelines_F25.pdf) document for useful information regarding writing a research proposal.

Proposals will be evaluated competitively by the CoE Research Committee based on the scope and originality of the proposed research, and on the quality and completeness of the information provided in each section of the body of the proposal (see the [**Template**](https://www.sjsu.edu/engineering/docs/research/Template_F25.docx)document). A creative research component that goes beyond standard course or culmination project is required (please consult with your CoE faculty mentor).

**Reporting Requirements**

A selected group of students will need to report on their research progress in a Student Research Showcase to be held in late Spring 2026 and submit a final project report approved by the faculty advisor by May 30, 2026.

**Submission Link**

By September 29, 2025, submit your proposal approved by your faculty mentor. Your submission should be a single pdf file (≤ 3 pages proposal plus any cover pages -- see the [**Template**](https://www.sjsu.edu/engineering/docs/research/Template_F25.docx) document) and named as follows: YourLastName\_YourFirstName\_DSS\_F25.pdf.

Click [Here](https://forms.gle/7KTxapM79Rxzwf698) to Submit Your Proposal.

Regards,

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