# HOW TO USE WORK STUDY TO CONDUCT RESEARCH

Katie Vuletich

Undergraduate Research Scholars Admin Assistant

#### BEFORE WE BEGIN ...

1. Have you conducted undergraduate research at CSM in the past?

2. Do you have work-study funding or are you eligible for work-study?

#### GENERAL STEPS

#### View instructions at:

https://www.mines.edu/undergraduate-research/independent-study-work-study/

- 1. Before beginning, you should check your financial aid award. You can check your financial aid award to see if you are awarded work study through Trailhead. If you do not see an award in your account summary, email <a href="mailto:finaid@mines.edu">finaid@mines.edu</a> to inquire about eligibility.
- 2. Find and apply for the research position. Individual research positions are given through the different academic departments. They are usually posted on DiggerNet; however, not always. Make sure to ask your department's administrative assistant for help; they will often have a complete list of available undergraduate research projects. It is always helpful to speak with your faculty mentor and the department's administrative assistant prior to applying.
- 3. Once hired for a research project, you should complete <u>Student New Hire Packet</u> and a Student Work-Study Authorization and Contract.

#### TRUE OR FALSE

# Work study funds are only for low income students.

# FALSE

You could be eligible for work study funds regardless of your economic standing.

#### MORE ABOUT STEP 1

#### 1. Before beginning, you should check your financial aid award.

- Work-study need/eligibility is often determined by FAFSA but not always. You could be eligible for work study funds regardless of your economic standing.
- Most first-year students are awarded \$1,500 by default.
- If you do not use these funds your first year, you might not be awarded your next year. BUT, just because you don't use your award does not mean you are ineligible. It just means you *might* be waitlisted until funds become available.
- Work-study can come from several sources (Federal government, Colorado state, and Mines). Thus, eligibility and allotment varies by student.

It is imperative you speak with Financial Aid about your particular circumstance.

## TRUE OR FALSE

Undergraduate research opportunities are posted on DiggerNet.

# TRUE(ISH)

Undergraduate Research opportunities can be posted in several places, including DiggerNet, the office of Undergraduate Research website, and in the individual departments.

#### MORE ABOUT STEP 2

#### 2. Find and apply for the research position.

- Finding an undergraduate research position starts with finding a mentor and an active research project.
- You can search for active research projects on DiggerNet, on <u>our MURF project page</u>, or through word-of-mouth.
- Once you think you've found a research position that suits you, you can either A) apply on DiggerNet (if that's where the position is posted) or B) cold call/email the faculty mentor. Generally, this includes a brief description of who you are and why you're interested in the research.
- Work-study research positions are given through the individual departments. I.e. If you use work-study funds to conduct research, you are considered a student employee of the respective department in which you are conducting research.

## TRUE OR FALSE

You can start a work-study research position without completing HR paperwork.

# FALSE

You MUST complete all paperwork (the Student New Hire Packet and the Student Work-Study Authorization and Contract) BEFORE you begin your work-study postion.

#### MORE ABOUT STEP 3

- 3. Once hired for a research project, you should complete <u>Student New Hire Packet</u> and a <u>Student Work-Study</u> <u>Authorization and Contract</u>.
- Once you have confirmed with financial aid that you have a work study award, you will print your Work-Study Authorization and Contract from Trailhead > Financial Aid > Yellow Work Study section and give this to your supervisor/mentor.
- Your supervisor/mentor will complete the bottom of the contract and submits it and your *Student New Hire Packet* to MAPS, Mines Administration Processing Services, with a HelpDesk ticket.
- You can begin working after you have approval from MAPS.
- You will have to submit bi-weekly hours via Trailhead. If you exceed your hourly work study award, funds will be pulled from whatever account your supervisor/mentor listed in your *Work-Study Authorization and Contract*.



#### STUDENT EMPLOYEE WORK STUDY AUTHORIZATION AND CONTRACT

#### 2020 FALL/2021 SPRING CONTRACT

	Student Name:				Birthdate:	
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