

Fall 2026 Wilson Scholar/Wilson Fellow Application

According to UMF's Undergraduate Research Council "undergraduate research is a student-faculty collaboration or student work under the guidance of faculty to examine, create, and share new knowledge or works in ways commensurate with practices in the discipline."

Applicants for the fall 2026 Wilson Scholar Program must be matriculated UMF students in good standing. Prior Wilson Award winners are eligible. The program offers two award classes: Wilson Scholars (projects completed by end of fall 2026; \$700) and Wilson Fellows (projects completed fall 26-spring 27; \$1,400 award). Proposed projects may be part of a larger program of research that extends prior to or beyond that time. The application **deadline is Monday, September 28th, 5:00pm**. Please note: this deadline is firm and late **or incomplete** submissions, including those without a letter of recommendation, will not be considered.

Applications must be submitted electronically to the Undergraduate Research Council c/o Karol Maybury (karol.maybury@maine.edu). **When submitting your application, please use the full student name with WilsonF2026 in the application file name (for example: PatStudentWilsonF2026.pdf). Please use Adobe PDF (.pdf) or Microsoft Word (.docx) file formats.** The student is responsible for submitting all application materials in the correct format, including the faculty letter of support, and we ask that students 'cc' their faculty sponsor so that all parties are aware that the application has been successfully submitted.

For full consideration the application should contain the following.

Part I. Cover Sheet

- A. Project title.
- B. Student name, email address, local mailing address.
- C. Faculty sponsor, email address.

Part II. [To be completed by the student OR by the student and faculty sponsor] A. Clear description of the project that can be understood by someone who is not an expert in the field.

B. Statement of research questions, research interests and/or hypotheses. C. Brief review of critical and/or theoretical context, situating your project within comparable work in your discipline. Clearly illustrate the originality of the proposed project and/or its contribution to the discipline of study.

D. Brief plan for carrying out the student's scholarly endeavor (including a description of research methods or artistic and creative practices and, if appropriate, intentions regarding data analysis or relevant artistic and creative processes).

E. Expected products/outcomes.

F. Method of dissemination, in addition to Symposium Day, upon completion of project (e.g.,

conference poster presentation, publication).

*All research involving human subjects must be reviewed by the Institutional Review Board prior to initiating the project. Please consult the [IRB page](https://mycampus.maine.edu/group/umf/institutional-review-board) on MyCampus (full link: <https://mycampus.maine.edu/group/umf/institutional-review-board>) for the appropriate information and applications. Contact the Chair of IRB **Brianna Grumstrup** if you have any questions.*

Students wishing to conduct research involving elementary, middle, or secondary schools should also contact the Chair of the URC for additional information before submitting an application.

Part III. [To be completed by the faculty sponsor]

A. Letter of faculty support, which addresses the following:

1. The feasibility of the project (in light of resources and time constraints).
2. The student's motivation and ability to carry out the research.
3. An explanation of how the project represents an original/novel contribution to the relevant field.

NOTES: 1. Award winners are required to present their research to the UMF community at the Michael D. Wilson Symposium. 2. A copy of the final research report, paper, poster, or presentation must be submitted to the committee at the completion of the project to be included in a Wilson Scholar Award Archive. 3. Winning applications will be made public to the UMF community. 4. Awards may be considered taxable income. Please see IRS regulations or your tax accountant.

Questions about the program or application may be directed to Karol Maybury (email listed above).