

Experience UTSC Library: An Opportunity for Black and Indigenous High School Students

UTSC Library has developed a new opportunity for Black and Indigenous high school students. (This initiative is part of a broader program across the University of Toronto Libraries (UTL), modelled on the [University of Toronto's SEE \(Support, Engage, Experience\) U of T program](#).) This new library internship program aims to provide a pathway for Black and Indigenous students, groups who are typically under-represented as library employees, allowing them to see UTL and academic libraries as a place where they belong and can thrive, both as students and potential future employees. We hope it will inspire participating students to consider a career in libraries.

High school students will have the opportunity to experience a few of the many dimensions of library work, understand the pathways to various types of library careers and be mentored by library professionals. Assigned work may include helping with public service and learning about how to interact with our many users, which includes University students and faculty, assisting with and learning about how we get our books, journals, and other resources onto our shelves and how our users find them, and assisting with the organization of library events and programming, among other tasks.

UTSC Library will host two students for up to 10 hours per week in the fall of 2022 (September-December). (Scheduling is flexible and will be determined in discussion with the successful candidates.) The internship will include a significant emphasis on mentoring to ensure that the students have a rich opportunity to learn about UTSC Library and the broader UTL system, as well as to share their perspectives about what they observe back into the system. Mentorship opportunities may include a workshop with Library Human Resources regarding workplace norms, information interviews with library staff across all staff groups and departments, attendance at meetings and formative feedback from their supervisor. Training will be provided for all assigned work. The hourly rate will be \$16.98 plus 4% vacation pay.

How to Apply

The deadline for students to apply is Monday July 4th, 2022. To apply, students should send a resume and cover letter to sarah.fedko@utoronto.ca

If you have any questions or feel you have students who would be interested in applying for this internship, please contact:

Sarah Fedko, Liaison Librarian, sarah.fedko@utoronto.ca