**ACE Undergraduate Research Award**

Undergraduate research connects students to faculty, prepares them for multiple careers, and positions them to be competitive in moving forward into graduate programs in their fields. The Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics (ACE) has an award for high-quality independent undergraduate research in the department each year. The guidelines for that award are as follows:

Eligible students: Juniors or Seniors who are ACE majors.

Eligible research: The research product must be an original research effort that generates new knowledge (though it need not be a major enough contribution to be published in an actual professional journal). The student must have done enough of the work himself or herself to warrant primary authorship. Students may submit one research project each year. If submitting for a second year, the research project must be different or a substantial extension of the original submission.

Submission process: Submissions are due **Friday, April 4, 2025.** Each student should send the following materials via email to the Advising Support Associate (Krystle Simmons, [klsimmns@illinois.edu](mailto:klsimmns@illinois.edu)) who will compile applications for review by the committee:

(1) A filled-in copy of the Submission Form for the ACE Undergraduate Research Award.

(2) A research poster or research paper. References, tables, and figures should be reflected on the poster or paper. Professional presentation of the student’s work is essential. Please contact Caroline Helton ([chelton@illinois.edu](mailto:chelton@illinois.edu)) for a poster template or with questions.

Award selection process: A committee of ACE faculty will evaluate the submissions. Awards will be given on the basis of: (1) quality of research, including originality, importance, and sophistication of methods; (2) quality of presentation/writing.

There will be one first place prize, one second place prize, and as many Honorable Mentions as the committee decides to award in a given year. Award recipients will be recognized at the final ACE faculty meeting of Spring 2025, which is Friday afternoon, April 25.

**Submission Form for ACE Undergraduate Research Award**

Student name:

Expected year of graduation:

ACE Concentration:

Research advisor’s name:

Title:

Abstract (about 200 words):