

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PARTICIPANT POOL WINTER 2025 (PSYC 1010 W)

URPP Opens: January 6th, 2025

URPP Closes (Last day to participate): April 14th, 2025

Appeals Days: April 16th to 18th, 2025

What is it the URPP?

The URPP allows you to earn 4% out of your final PSYC 1010 grade by participating in psychological research at York University. Specifically, students earn 4% toward their final grade by participating in **4 credits worth of research (NOTE: There are no roll-over of credits from previous courses—all credits must be completed between January 6th and April 14th, 2025)**. We recommend that you get started as soon as possible. Although studies are posted throughout the term, **students who leave their URPP participation until the last minute may be unable to earn their full 4 credits**. Each hour of participation is worth 1.0 URPP credits. Participation in studies conducted on campus (in-person), will be awarded an additional 0.5 credit (e.g., a 1-hour study on campus would be worth 1.5 credits). **At least 1 of the 4 credits must be earned through a lab study conducted on campus (in-person).**

How do I get an account?

1. Go to <http://yorku.sona-systems.com> and “Request an Account”.
2. When asked to provide an email address, we recommend you use your York email address, otherwise notifications sent to you (including your password) may end up in a spam/junk folder.
3. It is your responsibility to ensure that your student number and your course section are entered correctly. **If they are not, you won't get credit for your research participation.** If at any point you change course sections, please notify us at urpp@yorku.ca and an administrator will update your account.
4. Make note of the URPP ID code that will be emailed to you. This is an anonymous identifier so that researchers can credit you for participation in the studies you complete.
5. NOTE: You will be asked to select your own username called a “User ID” (e.g., mark537)—this is different from your URPP ID code.

How do I participate in studies to earn my 4%?

1. **Prescreen Questions:** When you first create an account you will have the chance to voluntarily answer about 20-minutes worth of questions about your personal characteristics. *Answering these will give you a wider variety of studies to choose from, making it easier to earn your 4%.* All responses are confidential and no one will contact you based on your answers. **NOTE: Declining the prescreen means you will not be offered the prescreen again. If you decline the prescreen by accident and would like to take it, please contact us at urpp@yorku.ca.**
2. **Signing Up:** Log in to your account to browse and sign up for studies that fit your schedule and interests. You will get 1 “credit” for each hour of participation (+ 0.5 bonus credits for studies conducted in-person, on campus). Please make sure to read the study details carefully to confirm eligibility before signing up. If you have any questions, please contact the researchers directly (their information can be found at the bottom right of the study's information page).
3. See detailed participant instruction video at: <https://www.yorku.ca/health/psychology/research/undergraduate-research-participant-pool/>
4. **Participant Code of Conduct:** Participants must show up on time for research appointments. Signing up for a study is like signing a contract. If you show up late, the researcher will decide whether there is enough time to complete the study. If not, your appointment may be cancelled or rescheduled at the researcher's discretion. **If you miss an appointment without contacting the researcher you will be penalized the credit value of the study, and you will be required to complete extra hours to earn your 4%.** Cancellations can be made online up to 24 hours in advance; the web system will not allow any cancellations made less than 24 hours before your appointment. Be sure to take note of the researcher's email address when you sign up, in case you are unable to attend your appointment on short notice and need to contact them.
5. **Participant Rights:** Researchers must also follow a code of conduct. Researchers are expected to show up on time for research appointments, maintain respectful and courteous communication, and uphold ethical research standards. **Researchers must credit participants within 72-hours of a participant completing their study.** Researchers must give participants 48-hours notice if they (the researchers) are cancelling an appointment, otherwise, participants are entitled to receive the full credit for the cancelled appointment. Please notify the URPP administrators as soon as possible (urpp@yorku.ca) if you have any concerns.
6. **Right to Withdraw:** As part of ethical research procedures, a participant has the right to withdraw at any time during the course of a study without penalty. If you feel uncomfortable for whatever reason about continuing in a study once you've begun, let the researcher know.
7. **Record Keeping:** All records are kept online and mistakes can occur. Please keep the confirmation emails that the URPP system sends to you confirming your participation in different studies. If you think you have not received appropriate credit for participating in a study, first contact the researchers responsible for the study in question. There will also be formal appeals days at the end of the term during which time you should check your account to ensure all of your credits are showing (April 16th to 18th, 2025). **No appeals will be considered after these dates.**

What if I do not wish to participate in research? Is there another way to earn my 4%?

Yes, you may opt to submit a 5-page paper summarizing a psychology research article that will be assigned to you. This option is referred to as the Paper Stream. Students who wish to choose this option **must email the URPP office before February 20th, 2025** (urpp@yorku.ca) and will receive further instructions. Late notification of the Paper Stream option will not be accepted. Papers will earn up to 4% toward their final grade.

Note: The Paper Stream submission deadline is April 1st, 2025. The URPP Participation deadline is April 14th, 2025.

If you have any questions, email us at urpp@yorku.ca and you will receive a response within 2 business days.

*Note: The URPP is managed independently of your course instructors and TAs. They do not have administrator privileges on the URPP platform and cannot answer questions regarding URPP operations (e.g., crediting, password resets, study information, etc.). Please direct any URPP related inquiries to urpp@yorku.ca