

# Senior Design Project Funding Options

Are you looking for money for your Senior Design project? If so, there are several avenues of support available for undergraduate research projects at Santa Clara University. Please see the list of options below and speak with your advisor early on to determine your project funding plan. Do not expect that others will cover all costs of your project. It is reasonable to assume that you may need to contribute at least what you might have paid for books. Several funding options are listed below, approximately in the order in which you should pursue them. Please also review Shane's weekly Undergraduate Engineering Newsletter on Wednesdays for other possible funding sources that may arise.

## 1. Santa Clara University Undergraduate Research Support:

There are several offices on campus that offer research funding to undergraduate projects. See a short list of resources below and check with those offices for any application criteria and deadlines:

- **Provost Office: SCU Undergraduate Research Initiative:** The Provost's Office has some funding available for appropriate undergraduate research opportunities. There may be some deadlines for funding, so contact the office early on.  
**Funding Info:** <http://www.scu.edu/provost/research/student-funding-opportunities>  
**Contact:** Eric Tillman, [etillman@scu.edu](mailto:etillman@scu.edu), (408) 551-3078
- **School of Engineering Labs and Hubs:** Some specialized labs and hubs may have additional funding for projects given alignment of the student work with their initiatives:
  - i. **Robotic Systems Lab**, Christopher Kitts, [ckitts@scu.edu](mailto:ckitts@scu.edu)
  - ii. **Frugal Innovation Hub**, Allan Baez Morales, [abaezmorales@scu.edu](mailto:abaezmorales@scu.edu)
  - iii. **Latimer Energy Lab**, Maryam Khanbaghi, [mkhanbaghi@scu.edu](mailto:mkhanbaghi@scu.edu)
  - iv. **Healthcare and Innovation Design Lab**, Prashanth Asuri, [asurip@scu.edu](mailto:asurip@scu.edu)

## 2. Engineering Undergraduate Programs Senior Design Project Funding:

**Application Info:** <https://www.scu.edu/engineering/current-student-resources> (Click on Senior Design Resources)

**Contact:** Shane Wibeto, [swibeto@scu.edu](mailto:swibeto@scu.edu), (408) 554-4468

**Deadline for Proposals:** October 22, 2023

## 3. External Funding:

Work with your advisor to assemble a list of public and private companies, and educational organizations whose work aligns with your project and from whom you may seek funding or in-kind gifts of project materials. Before contact is made with these external prospects, they must be vetted by the School of Engineering to determine any conflicts with current University funding plans or donor relationships. Contact Mary Coady, Director of Corporate and External Relations for Engineering, for assistance: [mcoady@scu.edu](mailto:mcoady@scu.edu). You must also prepare a funding request letter, project overview and detailed budget to share with potential donors.

## 4. Individual Department Funding Support: (May or may not be available.)

**Contact:** Your Department Chair

## 5. Engineering Dean's Office (LAST RESORT):

If a project has truly exhausted all prior options and is still in need of funding, support may be requested from the Dean's Office. Any students who seek funding from the Dean's Office who have skipped one or more of these prior steps will be redirected back to those options. Each student group that submits a proposal for funding from the Dean must document what they have received or applied for from each area noted above.

**Contact:** Shane Wibeto, [swibeto@scu.edu](mailto:swibeto@scu.edu), (408) 554-4468