What is the URPP?

The URPP allows you to earn 4% out of 100% of your final PSYC 1010 grade by participating in psychology research at York University. Students may earn this 4% by participating in 4 hours of research per term. One of each of these four credits must be earned by participating in laboratory studies. For students in full year (Fall and Winter term) sections, each credit of research participation earned is worth half a percentage of your participation grade, so 2 credits = 1%. For students in half year (Fall or Winter or Summer) sections, each credit earned is worth 1% of your grade, so 1 credit = 1%. We recommend that you get started as soon as possible, as studies are posted throughout the term. Students who leave their URPP participation until the last minute may be unable to earn their full 4%.

How do I get an account?

1. Go to and follow the links to request a new account.

2. When asked to provide an email address we recommend your yorku.ca address or 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 have been entered correctly. If not, we won’t be able to identify you and you won’t get credit for your research participation.

4. Remember the URPP ID code that will be emailed to you. This is how the researchers will identify you.

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

1. Pre-screen Questionnaire: 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.

2. Signing Up: Login to your account to browse and sign up for studies. You will get 1 credit for each hour of participation.
3. Code of Conduct: Researchers and 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 and 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 him or her.

4. 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.

5. Record Keeping: All records are kept online, but mistakes can occur. Please keep the confirmation emails that the SONA system will send 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 a formal appeals week before the end of the term during which you should check your account to ensure all of your credits have been properly granted. No appeals will be considered after Appeals Week.

6. We delete student accounts at the beginning of every school year, so if you have taken PSYC 1010 previously any credits earned will not be counted.

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 and will receive further instructions. Acceptable papers will be graded and students can earn up to 4% toward their final grade.