

March 26, 2019

Dear Lyuben Borislavov:

It is with pleasure that I write a letter of support for a position as a J-1 Student-Intern in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Minnesota from June 3, 2019 to August 9, 2019.

The Summer Undergraduate Theoretical Chemistry Research Fellowship Program sponsored by the Chemical Theory Center (CTC), the Inorganometallic Catalyst Design Center (ICDC), and the Nanoporous Materials Genome Center (NMGC) will provide you an opportunity to gain a top-quality, graduate-level research experience at a major research university and to be exposed to many cutting-edge research topics in theoretical and computational chemistry.

Your faculty mentor will be Professor Donald Truhlar. Under his guidance you will receive training in the development of density functionals and will use this experience to develop new density functionals for applications to electronic structure problems in chemistry. You will become familiar with quantum chemistry codes, chemical structural and energetic databases, and techniques for parameter optimization on supercomputers and desktop computers.

There will be a research symposium at the end of the program, where all participants give a poster presentation on their research project.

Besides research, there will be a variety of social events over the course of the summer including weekly lunches where you will have the opportunity to meet the other summer undergraduate researchers and graduate students. You will also be invited to attend cultural and sporting activities in the Twin Cities.

**Position:** We will appoint you as a non-salaried research specialist, which allows you to obtain a library card and an email account in our department. When you arrive here, you will need to sign a waiver of liability, because as a non-salaried research specialist, you will not be covered by workers' compensation.

**English Proficiency:** A regulation instituted by the United States Department of State is the English Proficiency Requirement for J-1 visas. A list of acceptable English tests are outlined on the DS-2019 visa application that will be sent to you. Mollie Dunlap ([msdunlap@umn.edu](mailto:msdunlap@umn.edu)) will provide assistance on issues related to your J-1 visa application. The English Proficiency form and measurement documentation must accompany the DS-2019 application and the Certificate of J-1 Eligibility cannot be issued without it.

**Background check.** Everyone new to the University of Minnesota is subject to a background check. Mollie Dunlap will contact you with information on this process.

## Health Insurance:

### We will cover this cost.

J-1 Scholars and their dependents are required to purchase health insurance from the U of MN Student Health Benefit Plan if their program is longer than 31 days. **Because you will not be employed (paid) by the University of Minnesota during your program, you must purchase health insurance through the Office of Student Health Benefits.** The cost per month is shown below. If you do not purchase the U of MN insurance for yourself and your dependents for the entire length of your J program, you will not be eligible for ISSS services after you arrive. These services include travel/reentry signature, DS-2019 extension, dependent DS-2019 request, financial update, occasional lecture and short-term consultation authorization. For more information, visit the OSHB website at <http://www.shb.umn.edu/twincities/international-scholar/index.htm>.

### Academic Year 2018-2019

Coverage for	Cost per month
Scholar	\$221
Spouse	Add \$280
One child	Add \$207
Two or more children	Add \$296
Family	\$797

Please feel free to contact either me or Dr. Melanie Burns [mburns@umn.edu](mailto:mburns@umn.edu) if you have any problems, questions, or concerns. We're looking forward to having you here in Minneapolis this coming summer.

Sincerely yours,



Laura Gagliardi  
Distinguished McKnight University Professor

Accepted \_\_\_\_\_  
Scholar Name

Date \_\_\_\_\_