

## Summer Undergraduate Research Programme 2025

The Summer Undergraduate Research Programme (SURP) is part of the CREATE-DkIT project, which is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Southern, Eastern & Midland Regional Programme 2021-27.

<b>Project ID</b>	SURP2502
<b>Project Name</b>	Supporting Coaches to Support Female Players: Attitudes, Barriers and Facilitators from the Perspective of Male Coaches and Parents
<b>Applicant</b>	DkIT-Registered Only

### Research Project's Aim and Objectives

The aim of this project is to explore ways in which male coaches can be aided to support adolescent female Gaelic Football players with regards to female specific health and physiology. In addition, this project aims to gain a deeper understanding of the views and perspectives of parents on how male coaches can best support their daughters. Specifically, the objectives of this project are:

1. Explore male coaches' perceptions of the menstrual cycle, breast health and pelvic health and how they impact participation and performance.
2. Investigate how male coaches currently support their adolescent female players around the areas identified in objective 1 and gain a deeper understanding of the perceived barriers and facilitators to this support process.
3. Identify how male coaches would like to be supported and aided in supporting adolescent female players with the areas identified in objective 1.
4. Gain a deeper understanding of parents' perspectives of the role of male coaches in supporting adolescent female players with their menstrual cycle, breast health and pelvic health.

The student will be required to meet the above objectives by:

1. Recruiting male coaches working with, and parents of female players registered with Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA) clubs across county Louth.
2. Organising a series of focus groups to discuss attitudes, barriers and facilitators to supporting females players.
3. Collating the results and producing an abstract for submission and presentation at a relevant conference.

### Profile of Student Needed

The student should currently be working towards a degree in a discipline related to Physical Activity, Health & Science and have:

- A keen interest in female health and physiology
- A background in and knowledge around Ladies Football
- Proficient skills in Microsoft Office
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Knowledge of the research process, reviewing literature and collecting and analysing data
- Own transport desirable



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag  
an Aontas Eorpach  
Co-funded by the  
European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach  
an Deiscirt  
Southern Regional  
Assembly



HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY  
AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS

Location
Hybrid working on/off campus and other external venues.
Informal Project Contact
If you have any questions about the project itself, please contact Fiona Hackett: <a href="mailto:fiona.hackett@dkit.ie">fiona.hackett@dkit.ie</a>
Conditions
<p>Conditions of the programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be eligible, students must be starting their 3rd or 4th year of an undergraduate programme in Semester 1 of 2025/2026</li> <li>• This project is open to DkIT-registered students only</li> <li>• Successful students will receive a weekly scholarship of €200</li> <li>• Awarded students must attend virtual and in-person training held over the 8-week period, including an in-person induction on July 1st</li> <li>• Awarded students must present a poster at a research dissemination event in October 2025</li> </ul>
How to Apply
<p>Using the Project ID in the subject line, please email your current CV, along with a cover letter, to Elaine O'Neill, Research Support Officer at <a href="mailto:elaine.oneill@dkit.ie">elaine.oneill@dkit.ie</a> by <b>12pm, Monday May 12th 2025</b>.</p> <p>Interviews will take place in the week of May 19th.</p>

