



2026 STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS

The [Northwest Scientific Association](https://northwestscience.org) (NWSA) offers funding to undergraduate and graduate students to support presenting their research in the fundamental or applied natural sciences or related fields at our 2026 annual meeting March 23-27 in Olympia, Washington.

Purpose

- Recognize student contributions to scientific research and engagement
- Promote opportunities for students to communicate and share scientific research results
- Provide funding support to students to participate in and present at a professional scientific conference
- Promote and encourage student participation and involvement with NWSA

Proposal Submission Guidelines

Due date

- Proposals must be submitted by **Sunday February 15, 2026 by midnight PST** via the NWSA Student Travel Grant form (northwestscience.org/student_grant_award).

General requirements and overview

- Applicant must be a current student at the time the proposal is submitted.
- Grant funding may only be used to support participation in the NWSA annual meeting. Qualifying expenses include registration fees (including field trips), meals, materials (*e.g.*, poster printing), lodging, and transportation (*e.g.*, airfare, mileage). Requested funds should be reasonable and well justified. Award amounts depend on available funds and travel distances. Maximum allowed budget = \$1000.
- Applications will only be considered for students presenting research conducted in the northwest region of North America, including Alaska, western Canada (British Columbia, Yukon, Alberta, and Northwest Territories), and the northwestern United States (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and northern California).
- Grant recipients must be NWSA members. Membership is not required to apply; however, if selected for funding, you will need to become a member to accept the grant. See website for membership information at northwestscience.org.
- Grant recipients must attend and present their research results (not just methods/design) as a poster or oral presentation. Abstracts for presentations must be submitted by due date and approved. See website for instructions at northwestscience.org.

Proposal requirements and formatting

- Format with 12 pt Times New Roman font, single linespace, and 1-inch margins
- Combine the following five items into a single PDF document
 1. **Research Statement** (1 page max – an extended/more detailed abstract)

- Research project title, name, college or institution, advisor's name, your e-mail address
- Explain the topic, problem, importance of your research
- Briefly describe the relevant knowledge gap related to the topic of your research
- State the specific research objectives, questions, or hypotheses
- Succinctly describe the experimental design/methods of your research
- Communicate the major research results/findings
- Indicate the implications of the research to science, decision-making, or policy

2. **Personal Statement** (1 page max)

- Describe how your education and relevant experiences have contributed to your professional development
- Describe any prior or planned activities that inform or engage others in science
- Communicate your prior and planned experiences in promoting and advocating for diversity, equity, and inclusion in research, training, or education
- Indicate your career goals and future involvement with NWSA or other scientific communities

3. **Budget and Justification** (1 page max)

- Communicate your interest and need for support to attend and present at the annual NWSA meeting
- Declare any existing funds available to support attendance and presentation of your research
- Provide the source and a clear justification for each planned expenditure
- Create an itemized budget table, generally following the template provided

Category	Description	Source of Estimate	Cost	Funding Requested
Registration				
Transportation				
Lodging				
Meals				
Materials				
Total Amount				

4. **Curriculum Vitae / Resume** (1-2 pages max)

- Include relevant education, work experience, presentations, publications, awards, grants, clubs/activities.

5. **Advisor letter**

- Include only the following statement signed by your graduate advisor: *“I support the request for graduate student travel funds and confirm that (your name here) has sufficient results to present their research.”*
- Name your proposal with underscore separated fields as follows:
2026_degree_lastname_firstname.pdf (e.g., 2026_PHD_Jones_Jane.pdf)
- Submit completed proposals via the NWSA Student Travel Grant form by due date (northwestscience.org/student_grant_award)

Grant awarding, reporting, and contact information

- Grant awardees will be notified via email prior to close of early registration and announced at the Annual Business Meeting, at the Annual Meeting, and on the website
- Funding will be disbursed to awardees at the time of announcement at the annual meeting
- Preference will be given to qualified applications from individuals who have not previously received a student grant from NWSA
- Student Applicants will be separately evaluated by degree (Bachelors, Masters, Doctorate) based on the following criteria (100 points total):
 - Ability to succinctly communicate research importance, findings, and implications (20 points)
 - Research merit and contributions to advancing understanding/outcomes of a particular topic (20 points)
 - Degree and quality of involvement in activities that promote professional development and success as a scientific researcher or practitioner (20 points)
 - Degree and quality of involvement in activities that promote engagement of others in research and science (20 points)
 - Detailed and well justified travel budget that communicates need for funding support (20 points)
- Please direct questions about the NWSA Student Travel Grant to:
NWSA Student Grants Committee Chair
Keala Hagmann at rkealah@gmail.com