

Environmental Studies Research Scholarship

Guidelines

The Environmental Studies Program (the “Program”) seeks, to the fullest extent possible, to support the efforts of its majors and minors to conduct independent research and to have other high-impact educational experiences (in general, their “projects”). To that end, the Program will offer scholarships to assist students cover the cost of materials, supplies, equipment, and/or travel associated with their projects. The amount of scholarship assistance will vary with the financial resources available and the number of students requesting support. Currently applications for up to \$250 have the best chance of success.

The primary use of the Program’s scholarship funds will be to support students completing the research requirement (ENST 3893 – an independent research project supervised by an OU faculty member) for the major or minor, or its substitute. Substitutes can include other high-impact educational experiences such as an internship (ENST 3880), study abroad or study away program, or some other program approved by the Environmental Studies Director (the “Program Director”). Normally, students will be encouraged to apply for the scholarship as part of their work on their Project Plans in the Cornerstone class (ENST 2813).

As the Program’s budget permits, however, applications will also be accepted for other research or independent study projects, or to fund activities related to students’ work in the major or minor. Students who seek support for other than their work for ENST 3893 or its substitute should contact the Program Director to discuss the availability of funds and the appropriateness of their projects.

Because the Program’s funds are limited, it will consider projects that receive funding from other sources very carefully. Applicants must reveal any other funding received or applied for. In general, applications will be considered only if Program funds will not duplicate funding for elements in the project budget received from other sources.

To apply for a scholarship students should complete and sign the [application form](#) available on the Environmental Studies website. The application includes a project description and budget. By signing, the applicant affirms that the requested funding will be used to complete the project, and that the application lists other funding sources.

The application must also be co-signed by a faculty sponsor. In the case of support for work in ENST 3893 this will be the faculty supervisor of the research project. In the case of other projects this will normally be the Program Director – or someone the Program Director designates, for example the supervisor of an independent study. By co-signing the faculty sponsor affirms that the funds are appropriate to the applicant’s project.

Students should submit the signed application to the Program, at its office (511 Physical Sciences Building) or by e-mail (environmentalstudies@ou.edu). Faculty of the Program will review applications on a rolling basis. They will consider the quality of the proposed project, its coherence with the goals of the Program, the appropriateness of the proposed budget to the project, and the need for Program funding in the context of other funding sources.

The Program Director will inform applicants as soon as possible whether they will be funded. Successful applicants will be instructed on the procedure for receiving funds, which will be paid directly to the recipients by OU Financial Services.

As a condition of the scholarship, at the conclusion of their projects recipients must submit a brief report to the Program summarizing their findings or other results and explaining how the scholarship contributed to reaching them. In the case of funding for ENST 3893 or its substitute this report is due by the end of the given semester; likewise for other projects associated with a course (e.g. an independent study). Grades for the relevant courses will be posted only after the Program receives this report.