



Undergraduate Research Scholarships

The MSA Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program is currently soliciting applications from students interested in conducting a research project which involves the use of any microscopy technique. The maximal award is \$3000. The application deadline is Dec 31, of each year (20xx), for use within the next year (20xx +1).

The MSA Undergraduate Research Scholarship Program has been providing funding for undergraduate research for over 25 years. Over 100 projects covering a wide range of topics in the physical and biological sciences have received funding through this program. Nearly all the scholarship recipients have maintained a strong interest in imaging and analytical sciences and have gone on to graduate school, professional school, teaching, or industry positions.

Before moving forward with your application, please keep in mind that **this is a research-based scholarship program**. The program helps to provide student stipends, supply costs, and limited travel expenses associated with the research. Additional support in the form of instrument use time, equipment purchases, etc. is generally provided by the student's supervisor and/or through the sponsoring institution. Abstracts reporting the research results, are prepared by scholarship awardees, and published in *Microscopy* and *Microanalysis*.

Regulations & Requirements

Each applicant must submit the following:

1. An original and four copies of a completed Application Form. A copy of the form is attached here. **Please note that copies are not required if all materials are being submitted electronically.** Submissions may be made electronically by sending an e-mail to AssociationManagement@microscopy.org.
2. An original and four copies of a research proposal not more than three pages long. It should include, at least, an introduction, a section on methods, and a description and itemization of the study's goals.
3. An original and four copies of a budget indicating how the awarded funds will be expended. Please specify the source(s) of additional funding for instrument use, laboratory equipment, etc.
4. Two letters of reference from scientists or university faculty familiar with the applicant's capabilities. Four copies of each letter are requested, if possible.
5. A letter from the supervisor of the laboratory in which the proposed research will be performed, confirming that the applicant and research project are acceptable. Four copies of the letter are requested.
6. An original and four copies of the applicant's curriculum vitae, including details of education and/or training in microscopy and a brief statement of career goals.
7. A letter of recommendation from an MSA member (may be combined with one of the letters in Items 4 or 5 above). Four copies of the letter are requested, if possible. Students are required to be sponsored by a member of MSA. For help in identifying current MSA members, visit www.microscopy.org or call (703) 234-4089.

Other important information to keep in mind:

- Applicants must be full-time undergraduate students. Research must be completed prior to graduation.* Applicants must have achieved junior or senior standing by the time the work is initiated.
- Scholarship funds must be expended within a designated period not to exceed one year from the award date.
- Applicants may receive only one scholarship.
- Applications for research to be performed at an institution other than the one in which the applicant is enrolled are acceptable.
- Successful applicants must agree to furnish MSA with an abstract for publication in the Society Journal, Microscopy and Microanalysis, describing the results and status of their project within two months after the conclusion of the award period, to acknowledge the award in all resulting publications, and to provide reprints of any other resulting publications to the Society. A brief note indicating the awardee's future plans is also requested at the time of abstract submission.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding the program please contact Dr. Ralph Albrecht, University of Wisconsin, at (608) 263-3952 or albrecht@ansci.wisc.edu.

MICROSCOPY SOCIETY OF AMERICA
Application Form for
Undergraduate Research Scholarships

Read the "Regulations and Requirements" carefully. All application materials, including this form (both sides), original and four copies of a research proposal and budget, your curriculum vitae, and all supporting letters, must be received at the MSA Office and or postmarked by December 31 of each year in order to be considered for funding in the following year. See page 2 for instructions on submitting this application and related materials.

Name: _____

Date of birth: _____

Present address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ Zip: _____

Permanent address: _____
(if different from above)

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime phone (including area code): _____

Fax: (including area code): _____

University: _____

Expected Date of Graduation: _____

Title of proposed research: _____

Site where research will be done: _____

Amount of funding requested from MSA (maximum: \$3,000.00): \$_____

Racial/Ethnic background (optional): _____

Name, address, and phone of two scientists or faculty who are providing letters of reference:

1. _____

2. _____

Name, address, and phone of research supervisor who is providing a supporting letter:

Please print or type a brief statement on why you chose your major and describing your career objectives:

Attestation:

I certify that I am a full-time undergraduate student and that all information provided in this application is true to the best of my knowledge. If this application is successful, I agree to observe and abide by all conditions specified in the "Regulations and Requirements".

Signature of applicant:

Date:

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Submission Instructions:

Materials, including this application, may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed.

1. **MAIL** all materials to MSA Undergraduate Research Scholarships, 12100 Sunset Hills Rd, Suite 130, Reston, VA 20190.
2. **FAX:** (703) 435-4390. Attention "MSA Undergraduate Research Program"
3. **E-MAIL:** AssociationManagement@microscopy.org