

Request For Application:

The Missouri Birding Society Graduate Research Scholarship

The Missouri Birding Society (MBS), Missouri's ornithological society since 1901, is pleased to announce an annual scholarship to support graduate level ornithological research at Missouri universities and colleges. MBS, with over 300 members throughout Missouri, is dedicated to the preservation and protection of birds and all wildlife forms and habitat, to the education of the citizenry toward appreciation of the natural world, and to wise conservation practices related to people and wildlife.

MBS is providing \$2,500 which will be given to the applicant's academic institution, which shall monitor the award without receiving any facilities and administration (indirect) fees.

Funds from MBS's Graduate Research Scholarship are to be used in support of research or field work in ornithology, or in an area of study that will directly benefit birds or bird habitat. Graduate students enrolled at a Missouri university or college are eligible to apply.

Applicants should submit the following materials:

1. A cover page detailing your contact information (mailing address, phone number, email address) and the same contact information for your institution which also indicates where the check should be mailed.
2. The title of the research project, and a description of the nature and location of the proposed field work and/or research. Review the goals and hypotheses to be tested. If field data will be further analyzed in the lab, please indicate the extent of this analysis.
3. A budget for the expected costs. Itemize scientific supplies and equipment costs and justify their need and cost. For auto mileage and per diem expenses, use your institution's official rate.
4. A curriculum vitae or brief statement of your academic career including education and degrees (institutions and dates), a brief summary of related courses including grades (transcripts are not required), and conservation-related activities.
5. Three letters of recommendation submitted by former or current faculty. One must be from your academic advisor stating that a) you are a student currently registered for a M.S. or Ph.D. degree, and b) that the expenses potentially covered by this scholarship are not already covered by existing funds.

Students should submit their application electronically (as a Word document or in PDF format) to the MBS Scholarship Chairperson, Sue Gustafson, at smgustafson@juno.com. Faculty should submit their letters of recommendation to the same email address. **All application materials must be received by 5:00 pm CST on January 15, 2021.**

Recipients will be notified by March 1, 2021. Recipients should submit a brief (two to three pages) written report within a year of receiving the funds and shall acknowledge the MBS Graduate Research Scholarship in any resulting published material. Recipients may also be invited to a future spring or fall MBS meeting to present their research findings.