

Application for Latin American Student Field Research Award

Your application consists of a 2-page document (pdf or Word formats preferred) as outlined below. E-mail it to Dr. Joseph A. Cook, Chair: cookjose@unm.edu

Page 1 must include the following information:

Project title:

Personal Information

Name:

Full address:

Home phone:

Business phone:

Fax:

E-mail address:

Country of Citizenship:

Education

a) Undergraduate College/University:

Dates Attended:

Undergraduate Degree, Major:

b) Earlier Graduate Program (if applicable):

University:

Dates Attended:

Degree, Major:

c) Current Graduate Program:

University:

Since:

Degree, Major:

References

Name of Graduate Advisor:

Name of additional Reference:

Has this proposal also been submitted to the Grants-in-Aid Committee? Yes ___ No ___

Briefly describe how you intend to spend the money if you are awarded the fellowship:

Page 2 is the description of your project. Follow the guidelines below:

Please provide a one page description of the background, significance, methods, and expected outcome of the research you propose to support if awarded the fellowship. This form must be accompanied by two letters of recommendation from persons familiar with your scientific background and current academic program, one of which must be from your graduate advisor. The application and letters of recommendation must be received by the Chair no later than April 15 to be considered. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that letters are received by the deadline.

Frequently asked questions:

What are the requirements to apply for the Latin American Student Field Research Award?

The Latin American Student Field Research Award is made annually to support field research projects by Latin Americans in Latin America. Eligible students must be citizens of Latin American countries (excluding Puerto Rico) and currently enrolled in a graduate program. Projects must be field-oriented investigations of natural history, conservation, ecology, systematics, wildlife biology, biogeography, or behavior. The selection committee, whose membership reflects these diverse fields and has field experience in Latin America, considers each of these areas of research to be equally important.

Keep in mind that “graduate programs” are those leading to master’s, doctoral, or equivalent degrees. They are called “programas de posgrado/posgraduação” in Spanish/Portuguese.

Do I have to be a member of the American Society of Mammalogists to apply?

No. However, if you want to become a professional mammalogist, we encourage you to consider becoming a member of ASM. Student and developing country membership dues are affordable and include important benefits to members. In addition, your dues help maintain many of the programs ASM has developed in support of graduate students in the field. Check membership options and benefits at www.mammalsociety.org.

Can I also submit an application to the Grants-in-Aid Committee?

Yes. That requires membership to ASM and follows different guidelines. If you receive an award from the Grants-in-Aid Committee, you will not receive a second award from ours.

What if I need extra space for my application? Should I add a separate list of references?

You should limit your application to the 2 pages required. Additional pages will not be considered. No reference list is required or expected. If you absolutely need to refer to published work, mention it in the text without providing the complete reference. For instance, you can state that your project will test a prediction of the MacArthur and Wilson (1963) theory of island biogeography.

Who should write letters of recommendation in support of my application?

We require a letter from your graduate advisor. The second letter should be from someone that really knows you and your work. A polite but vague letter signed by an important researcher will not help your case. The committee wants to hear from people that really have something to say about your motivation, work, and potential as a young scientist.

What can you recommend with respect to the language of my application and the letters of recommendation?

We encourage you to write your application in English so long as you can communicate your ideas effectively in that language. Using the English language tends to ensure a uniform terminology in science, and we will certainly not penalize you for your command of the language. However, if you feel you cannot communicate your ideas in English, you can use Spanish or Portuguese in a way that is accessible to the committee members. The same applies to the letters of recommendation. We prefer a letter from someone that knows you well written in Spanish or Portuguese than an impersonal letter in English.