

Policy Section Travel Support Awards

The Policy Section offers travel support awards to encourage and support undergraduate and graduate student attendance at the annual ESA meeting.

Criteria

The Policy Section award targets students presenting ecological research that is designed to be used by policy-makers or other environmental decision-makers. For example, the research might apply to: local, state, federal, international, or multi-jurisdictional environmental policy-making; private or corporate environmental resource management; or site or community-specific land, water, or biological resource management. We will also consider interdisciplinary or translational research that includes human dimensions of conducting and applying ecological data and knowledge to policy-making and community problem-solving. Research projects that contribute to the 2019 meeting topic of Bridging Communities & Ecosystems: Inclusion as an Ecological Imperative as described below are encouraged.

The community of people engaged in the science of ecology is transforming, bringing important new perspectives into the field. Inclusive approaches to ecology can build bridges between theory and practice, connect those working in disparate landscapes and subdisciplines, and incorporate diverse perspectives. Such approaches support ecologists and the ecological community as a whole as they articulate socio-environmental connections, address widespread ecosystem change, take advantage of technological advancements that provide unprecedented access to data and new analytical techniques, and engage in interdisciplinary collaborations.

Three awards of up to \$700 will be given for invited talks and/or posters from both undergraduate and graduate students. We may offer additional awards depending on demonstrated applicant needs. We particularly welcome applications from students banned from using state funds to travel to the ESA 2019 meeting location in Kentucky due to Senate Bill 17.

Eligibility:

- You must be a member of ESA and the Policy Section. Becoming a member of the Policy Section can be done for \$5 from the membership renewal page at any time, even if you have already renewed your membership. You can become a section member up to the day before you apply for the travel award.
- You must be enrolled as a student (undergraduates, Masters, or Ph.D.).
- You must be in good academic standing (GPA of ≥ 3.00).
- To collect your monetary award and be recognized for your achievement you must attend the Policy Section Special Session at the 2019 annual meeting (Monday, August 12 at 10:15am).

Volunteer Policy Section members (sorry, students cannot be judges) will evaluate applications based on submission quality and relevance, professional achievements, and demonstrated need.

Submit your application to policysection.esa@gmail.com by 5 pm ET, of June 14th, 2019. The applicant must submit the application package as a single PDF file named "lastname_firstname ESA-Policy travel award 2019" in one email with the subject "ESA-Policy travel award 2019". The goal of the Policy Section is to have members that enrich the scholarly and educational experiences of our society. The Policy Section is dedicated to the goal of building a culturally diverse membership committed to research and work in a multicultural environment and strongly encourages applications from women and minorities.

Application package (single PDF) must include:

1. Abstract acceptance confirmation
2. One paragraph description of the work being presented at ESA with a focus on its connection to policy
3. Proof of enrollment in an institution of higher education
4. Proof of good academic standing (GPA of ≥ 3.00)
5. A CV of the applicant
6. A letter of reference from the student's advisor or mentor attesting to the student's need for travel support, mentioning any other sources of funding. The letter of support can be sent separately by the advisor.

Applicants will be notified of award status at the latest by July 1st, 2019.