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**Undergraduate Student Research Award Program**

**2020-2021**

**Announcement**

What: Funds are now available from the Humboldt Marine and Coastal Science Institute and CSU COAST to support undergraduate research projects.

Who: The program is available to undergraduate students enrolled at Humboldt State University and propose an activity on a marine- or coastal-related subject. The student must be in good academic standing (GPA > 2.0) and work with an HSU COAST faculty advisor. Students are encouraged to submit joint applications when appropriate. A letter of recommendation from the faculty advisor is **not** required but a faculty signature is required.

When Can I Apply: Proposals can be submitted anytime between Oct. 15 and Apr. 15. Upon submission we will review your proposal and make a decision within approximately 1-2 weeks. **Funds can be used over the summer.**

How Much: up to $500 may be requested for supplies, software, fees (including joint applications).

How to Apply: Read the FAQs below, fill out the application form, and follow the instructions for submission. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.

Direct questions to Dr. Brian Tissot (Brian.Tissot@humboldt.edu)

**Humboldt Marine and Coastal Science Institute**

**Undergraduate Student Research Award Program**

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is the Humboldt Marine & Coastal Science Institute?**

*The Institute is a community of HSU students and faculty actively engaged in interdisciplinary research on marine and coastal systems in the northern California region. This research occurs at the interface of the sciences, policy, and economics, and supports partnerships with local, national, and international organizations. We serve as a forum for coordinated development, funding, and execution of marine and coastal science research, education, and outreach efforts on campus as well as a contact point for community members, such as individuals, non-profits, schools, and tribes, and for state and national agencies involved in marine science and policy work.*

1. **What is the source of the funding?**

*Funding is provided jointly by the Humboldt Marine & Coastal Science Institute and the CSU Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and technology (COAST).*

1. **What is the goal of this funding opportunity?**

*To support undergraduate students interested in marine-related careers and provide them with the opportunity to obtain the skills necessary to join a highly skilled, technologically advanced workforce in the marine sciences.*

1. **What are the eligibility requirements to apply for a grant?**

*Students must be enrolled at Humboldt State University and propose an activity on a marine-related subject. The students must be in good academic standing (GPA > 2.0) and work with an HSU faculty advisor. A letter of recommendation from the faculty advisor is not required but you are required to obtain your advisor’s signature on the form prior to submission (an e-mail will suffice).* Your advisor is the person working with you on the project and can be your formal advisor, a course instructor, or an interested faculty member.

1. **When can I submit a proposal?**

*There will be two funding opportunities during fall and spring semesters. Proposals can be submitted at any time between Oct. 15 and Apr. 1. Upon submission we will review your proposal and make a decision within 1-2 weeks.*

1. **What types of projects are supported by this opportunity?**

*The scope of project topics that can be supported include anything related to:*

* *The open and coastal ocean;*
* *Coastal zones (bays, estuaries, beaches);*
* *Coastal watersheds to the extent that the organism, material, or process ultimately articulates with the coast (e.g., anadromous fish, surface and groundwater flow and water quality, land use, etc.). Make the connection clear in your proposal.*
1. **What budget items are supported by this opportunity?**

*Undergraduate students may request up to $500. Examples of research-related expenses include, but are not limited to:*

* *Research supplies or materials;*
* *Travel to field site to collect samples or gather interviews or to an off-campus facility to analyze samples (but NOT the marine lab);*
* *Rentals fees for boats, SCUBA or other specialized equipment;*
* *Sample analysis costs;*
* *Purchase of specialized software or equipment to analyze samples or data, including socioeconomic data.*

PLEASE NOTE THESE IMPORTANT POINTS*:*

* *Funds requested for travel are a low priority and must be well justified to be considered.*
* *We do not support travel to meetings or workshops or requests for wages or tuition.*
* *We cannot reimburse students for past expenses; all purchases must be approved through marine lab staff*
* *Any non-expendable equipment becomes the property of the marine lab and must be returned when the project is completed.*
1. **When do funds have to be used?**

*Funds can be used to support activities occurring between Oct. 15, 2020 and Aug. 31, 2021. The funds must be spent or encumbered by Aug. 31, 2021.*

1. **What should I write for the project description?**

*The project description should describe the research or activity you propose to conduct in a clear and concise statement and address how the project will help you achieve your career goals. The description should describe the context for the activity, the hypotheses to be tested (if any), and the methodology to be used in the study. Projects can involve more than one student, although each student involved and seeking financial support must apply separately. Faculty input is strongly encouraged but the description should be written by the student.*

1. **How will projects be evaluated?**

*Proposal will be ranked on the importance of the research, the likelihood of project completion, the impact on student success, and the need for support. Those who have not received prior funding, or funding from other sources, are given priority. Joint proposals are encouraged but funding is still limited to $500 per proposal. Awards for class projects may be limited of multiple projects are proposed by students in the class.*

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**Undergraduate Student Research Award**

**AY 2020-2021 Application Form**

**Application Deadline:** anytime between Oct. 15, 2020 and Apr. 15, 2021

Instructions: read the FAQ before completing; incomplete applications will not be considered.

* Complete this form and save this file as *LastName\_FirstName.doc*
* Include a copy of your CV or Resume
* Email both as an attachment to Dr. Brian Tissot (Brian.Tissot@humboldt.edu)

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| **Student Applicant Information** |
| First Name: |   | Department or Degree Program: |   |
| Last Name:  |   | GPA in Major Courses: |   |
| Student ID#: |   | Anticipated graduation date (mm/yy): |   |
| Area of interest: |   | Degree Sought (BA, BS, MS):  |   |
| Email: |   | Phone:  |   |
|  Have you previously received an MCSI Research Award? (Y/N) |   |
| If yes, please provide year of award and amount: |   |
| **Faculty Advisor Information** |
| First Name: |   | Email: |   |
| Last Name:  |  |  Phone: |   |
| Department: |   |  |
| **Advisor’s Signature\***: |  |  | \*Or an e-mail approval |
| Do you have COVID-19 approval that covers this project? |   |
| **Research Project Title**: |   |
| **Is this project part of a course? If so, which course:** |   |

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| **Project Description:** Please describe the research or activity you propose to conduct in a clear and concise statement *in the space provided* and address how the project will help you achieve your career goals (do not change the typeface or size of the font in this form). Faculty input is strongly encouraged but the description should be written by the student. Proposals are ranked based on the importance of the research, likelihood of project completion, and impact on student success.  |
| \*\*\* Do not exceed this space \*\*\* |
| **Brief summary of budget request** ($500 maximum; if part of a multi-student project where more than one student is applying for this funding, include total combined project costs up to $500 and specify which costs are requested as a part of your submission)List and justify all budget requests.  |
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| **Describe other sources of support you have for this project (if any):** |
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