

Student Research Grant Program
Pennsylvania Geographical Society (PGS)

Guidelines

Request for Proposals
2024

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals must be emailed to Mario Cardozo at cardozo@kutztown.edu
by 5:00 pm (EST) on May 1st, 2024

Student Research Grant Program Pennsylvania Geographical Society (PGS)

Purpose and Award Information

The Pennsylvania Geographical Society (PGS) seeks to support undergraduate and graduate student scholarly activities related to any field of research in Geography and Environmental Sustainability, and related fields at higher-education institutions across Pennsylvania and adjoining states. The goals of this grant program are:

- To promote student-led research and creative activities related to Geography at colleges and universities in Pennsylvania and adjoining states.
- To promote student presentations of scholarly work at the PGS Annual Conference.
- To encourage faculty-student research collaborations that lead to the advancement of geographic knowledge and practice.

A maximum of three awards will be given in 2024. Each award will consist of:

- A fund of up to US \$500 to conduct research. Students must present the results of their work at the 2024 PGS Annual Meeting to be held in Villanova, PA, on November 15th, 2024. Students will receive half of the grant money on June 1st and the other half following the successful presentation of their work at the PGS meeting in November.
- All meeting registration fees will be waived for the student awardee and their supervising faculty mentor.
- A travel stipend of US \$150 for the student's participation at the 2024 PGS Annual Meeting. This stipend is intended to help support the student's travel to the meeting. Students will receive the travel stipend following the successful presentation of their work at the PGS meeting in November.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be undergraduate or graduate students at a school in Pennsylvania or in an adjoining state.
- Applicants must be majors in geography, geosciences, planning, or related fields. Projects must involve spatial, geographic, or environmental research.
- The principal investigator must be the student applying for the grant, not faculty. All projects must be supervised by faculty (of any status).
- Applicants must present the results of their project (as a poster or paper) at the 2024 Annual PGS Meeting to be held in Villanova, PA, on November 15th, 2024.
- This grant is open to any student meeting the above criteria. Membership to the PGS is not required at the time of application.

Submission requirements and deadline

Proposals are due by 5:00 pm (EST) on May 1st, 2024. Applications must be emailed to Mario Cardozo at cardozo@kutztown.edu. In addition to submitting the proposal, the applicant must request that their project supervisor email a short letter in support of their application to Mario Cardozo by the proposal deadline. See example of letter of support on the next page. The proposal should include these items:

1. General information

- Project's title

- Applicant's information
 - Name
 - Major, program, department, and school
 - Current GPA
 - Home and School addresses
 - Email address
- Name and email address of project's faculty supervisor

2. Project narrative

The project narrative should be concise but include enough information to facilitate its evaluation by a diverse group of geographers. The suggested length for the project narrative is 500-700 words. The following sections are recommended for the project narrative:

- **Research topic:** What is the broader geographic or environmental issue/context linked to the research question? What is the importance of studying this broader issue? What are your specific research questions? Where is the study area? If not obvious, how does the study area connect with the research question(s)? What is the potential significance of the study? For what audience(s)?
- **Data and methods:** Describe the data and methods you plan to use for your project. What specific procedures and equipment will be employed to collect, analyze, and interpret the data? Describe data sources and methods concisely but thoroughly, making sure that there is a clear connection between methods and research question(s).
- **Expected outcomes:** What do you anticipate that you and others will learn from the concluded project?

3. Timeline and budget

- Draft a tentative timeline for planned actions. Be sure to include planned actions that clearly relate to the methods described above. Completed projects must be presented at the 2024 Annual PGS Meeting in Villanova, PA, on November 15th, 2024.
- The proposal must include a budget that lists how the grant funds will be used to complete planned actions. Grant funds will not cover salary, per diem, and institutional administrative fees. Budget items allowed for this grant include supplies, data, equipment, and software, among others.

4. Short letter of support

Do not forget to request a letter of support from your advisor/supervisor. The letter should be emailed directly by the advisor to Mario Cardozo at cardozo@kutztown.edu. The following example may be used to write the letter of support:

Email subject: PGS student research grant letter of support

I verify that I have reviewed the proposal entitled *project's title* by *applicant's name*, and that I will supervise the execution of the student's project if they are awarded the grant.

Name of supervisor.

Inquiries: If you have questions about this grant opportunity and its requirements, email Mario Cardozo at cardozo@kutztown.edu.