



## **GEOSCIENCE ALUMNI LEADERSHIP ENDOWMENT (GALE) APPLICATION**

Winona State University Foundation

### **Purpose:**

GALE is designed to enhance learning by providing funding opportunities for motivated students through an application process focused on faculty directed independent research. These opportunities include, but are not limited to, research and field expenses that would typically not be covered by funds from WSU. These supplemental research funds could include travel, specific research needs, and other expenses that provide an extraordinary learning experience for students. Funds may also be awarded for travel to professional geological conferences, field camps, expos and other avenues that benefit student's educational or professional development.

***Disclaimer: GALE funds are not meant to replace existing college, department or research advisor funds.***

### **Priorities for funding:**

#### **1. Research Grant**

- a. Travel expenses:
  - i. Students conducting faculty directed independent research projects with clearly defined goals and objectives. The GALE committee wishes to stress the importance of traveling outside the immediate Winona area to promote better geological understanding throughout the upper Midwest and United States.
  - ii. Opportunities for less experienced students to travel with field researcher(s). The goal is to provide experience in the field and an understanding of geological problems with the intention of the student conducting his/her own independent research project the following year. In this case, students may submit an application for a second year to fund this independent research. However, funding is not guaranteed.
- b. Laboratory analysis:
  - i. Analysis that will increase the productivity or effectiveness of a student's research. Items could include reserving work time in another institution's laboratory, sending samples for analysis, etc.

#### **2. Field Camp or Travel Grant**

- a. Industry technical conferences, e.g. American Association of Petroleum Geologists, American Geophysical Union, Geological Society of America. Travel grants can supplement existing WSU travel funding.
- b. Travel grants may be awarded for students not presenting at a conference, but would directly benefit from attending by gaining exposure to regional geology and research opportunities. Funds may be available to support travel for students seeking internships or jobs, which are not connected to research presentation travel expenses (e.g. Careers Expos - Rocky Mountain Rendezvous).
- c. Includes continuing education, career and/or graduate school preparation. Funds may be used to supplement existing field camp funding.

### **Award Eligibility and Application Requirements**

As part of the application process, students must be able to clearly articulate their project's potential impact by demonstrating a strong understanding of the questions they are trying to answer and whether those questions are relevant.

Each applicant must

1. be an undergraduate enrolled full-time and in good standing at Winona State University (minimum of 12 credits per semester, Fall and Spring). GPA must be provided in order to evaluate whether the student is in good academic standing. GPA will not be used for any other purpose.
2. be a geoscience major with 30 or more credits.
3. request a letter from a faculty sponsor be submitted on their behalf.
4. submit a faculty sponsored proposal describing:
  - a. Research Grant: Each application must include and clearly communicate the following:
    - i. Field location
    - ii. Hypotheses
    - iii. Basic research methodology
    - iv. Budget (complete budget form below)
    - v. Timeline
    - vi. Expected outcomes
    - vii. Impact of results to academia and professional fields
    - viii. Description of student readiness for research

**OR**

- b. Field Camp or Travel Grant: Each application must include and clearly communicate the following:
  - i. Description of the experiential learning opportunity that will enhance their academic development (include location)
  - ii. Goals and objectives for field camp or travel opportunity
  - iii. Budget (complete budget form below)
  - iv. Timeline
  - v. Description of student readiness for the field camp or travel opportunity
  - vi. Impact of field camp or travel opportunity on academic/professional development
  - vii. If for presentation at a conference: also include the student-authored or student team-authored abstract of the paper or project to be presented, and written confirmation from the conference sponsor(s) that the student's papers or project has been chosen for presentation.

### **Application Process:**

Applications shall be submitted electronically to the Geoscience Department Chairperson (Candace L. Kairies-Beatty; ckairiesbeatty@winona.edu) and should include the following:

1. Application cover page.
2. Faculty sponsored proposal as outlined above

### **Application Timeline for 2019/2020 Academic Year:**

1. Student secures a faculty mentor to sponsor proposal and write a letter on the student's behalf (letter should include any extra pertinent information).
2. Student submits application electronically with guidance from sponsor by March 6, 2020 to the Geoscience Department Chairperson (Dr. Candace L. Kairies-Beatty; ckairiesbeatty@winona.edu)
3. GALE selection committee shall submit recipient name to the Geoscience Department Chairperson and the WSU Foundation accountant by April 8, 2020.
4. Geoscience Department Chairperson will notify student recipient and faculty sponsor.

### **Award Requirements:**

Recipients are required to:

1. Present research or experience to their peers and the Geoscience Department;
2. Present research or experience at the annual Judith Ramaley Celebration of Research and Creative Scholarship Symposium at Winona State University and more preferably, a professional conference or symposium;
3. Send final report to GALE alumni selection committee summarizing research or experience (including, but not limited to, an extended abstract with figures, research conclusions and impact to the broader research community, and personal impact research had on academic / professional development as well as proposed next steps) with appropriate links to publications (if appropriate).  
Note: Report should be limited to 2 pages; and
4. Post student's research or experience on the WSU Geoscience Department website.

***Note: If the student receives funding to attend a conference or expo where they are not presenting research, #2 and #4 will not apply.***

### **Selection Process:**

Final selection of the recipient(s) shall be made by the GALE committee. The selection process is anonymous. All application materials shall identify student applicants by their WSU ID and should not include the student's name.

Recipients will be selected based on their projects potential impact and the following criteria:

- Applications for research funds must demonstrate the ability to clearly communicate the following ideas:
  1. Knowledge of current geological understanding and remaining unknowns.
  2. Questions and hypotheses that research will address.
  3. Plan to effectively collect and analyze data to support or reject hypotheses.
  4. Impact of results to academia and professional fields.
  5. Student readiness.
- Applications for travel funds must demonstrate the ability to clearly communicate the following ideas:
  1. Goals and objectives for travel opportunity.
  2. Impact of travel opportunity for academic/professional development.
  3. Student readiness.

**THE GEOSCIENCE ALUMNI LEADERSHIP ENDOWMENT (GALE) APPLICATION**  
**COVER PAGE**

Application materials should be submitted electronically to the Geoscience Department Chairperson.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (circle one):    Research Grant                      Field Camp                      Travel Grant

Project / Opportunity Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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*If applicable, include name, date, & location of conference.*

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Semester hours earned at the time of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected date of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

Total project/travel funds required: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of funds being requested from GALE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Fund secured from other resources: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Attach:

- Faculty sponsored proposal completed as directed under the "Award Eligibility and Application Requirements" section

**THE GEOSCIENCE ALUMNI LEADERSHIP ENDOWMENT (GALE) APPLICATION**  
**BUDGET**

Complete using categories that apply and adding others as appropriate. Provide an explanation/justification where noted.

Travel Expenses (itemize/explain):  
(Include mileage, air fare, lodging, meals, incidentals, etc.)

Registration Fees:

Supplies (Explain)

Other Expenses (Explain):

Total amount requested from GALE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Specifications:**

Equipment, supplies, books, software, etc. purchased with funds awarded through this endowment become the property of the Geoscience Department.

Funds are required to be used within one calendar year from the award date, unless special circumstances occur, which would require the student to submit a new proposal to the GALE committee.

Requests to carry funds forward to subsequent academic years requires a written request to the GALE committee with the faculty sponsor's support, describing the circumstances for this request.

If funds are not used, they will be returned to the GALE endowment.