



GCFI Student Travel Awards

Two annual travel awards (\$750 U.S. each) to the current GCFI meeting are offered to students presenting research related to the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Regions. The student will receive a check when they arrive at the meeting. One of these awards will be for Caribbean/Mexican students (Caribbean island/Mexican university/institution), and one will be for U.S./Canadian/European students (U.S./Canadian/European university/institution). Please note that students receiving this award will still need to register for the meeting by the registration deadline.

The Student Award Committee will determine recipients of travel awards based on the following **criteria**:

1. Applicant must be currently enrolled as a full time student.
2. Must be presenting a paper or poster at GCFI, and submit an abstract at the time of requesting the award.
3. Student must submit a statement of financial need and an estimated cost of entire trip.
4. Student will submit a short letter to the committee detailing the importance of GCFI to future career goals.
5. The student's major professor must submit a letter of "certification", stating the current academic standing of the student, verifying they are full time, and their progress toward their degree. The major professor should also indicate if there is any/partial financial support for the student to attend the meeting. [Rationale—often, a student may be able to "leverage" additional departmental/University monies if they receive a travel award, allowing them to attend the meeting. A statement from the major professor indicating the possibility of supplemental monies will be helpful in the final decision.]
6. A student can only receive one travel award/degree (ie, a student could receive an award to present their MS work and their PhD work, but could not receive an award more than once during their MS or PhD tenure)
7. A student may apply for multiple travel awards/year (ie, GCFI Travel Award, Ron Schmeid Scholarship Award, SCRFA Travel Award), but will only receive one award in any given year.

8. The student must apply for this award by July 31. The Committee will make their decision and notify applicants by August 31. The student must let the Committee know within 1 month of notification that they have been chosen for the award that they will attend the meeting. [Note—this time line ensures that there will be enough time to offer a travel award to another student if the “winner” can’t attend.]
9. Students that receive travel awards will be responsible for obtaining visas for travel.
10. Students receiving travel awards are still eligible to compete for the Outstanding Student Achievement award.
11. In the event of a tie in deciding student travel awards, preference will be given to students of long-time/active GCFI members.

To submit an application or for additional questions, please contact studentawards@gcfi.org.