



## **Ronald L. Schmied GCFI Scholarship**

**Purposes:** To financially assist graduate students interested in marine recreational fisheries who might otherwise not be able to attend the annual Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute (GCFI) conference. To provide encouragement to the next generation of students and young professionals interested in marine recreational fisheries.

**Description:** At least one \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded annually to help cover the costs of airfare and lodging to attend the annual GCFI conference, with the remainder of the stipend to be used to cover the student's discretionary research-related expenses. Each scholarship recipient will also receive a complimentary GCFI conference registration, a one-year GCFI student membership, and, as a member, a copy of the conference proceedings of the meeting attended.

**Eligibility Requirements:** Applicants for this award must be currently enrolled and in good standing in a college or university degree program in the wider Caribbean or in one of the adjacent Gulf of Mexico states (Mexico and the United States) or be a student in good standing at any college or university and engaged in a research project in the Gulf of Mexico and wider Caribbean region. Only applicants with a social, economic, ecological, or management perspective on recreational fisheries will be eligible to receive this award.

**Documentation Required:** An application letter from the student nominee that includes: student's name, address, telephone number, e-mail address, educational institution, department, degree level, a short description of current research in marine recreational fisheries, involvement with recreational fisheries topics/issues and related achievements, any particular reason for attending the GCFI meeting (paper presentation, pertinent paper session, meet with a faculty member at another institution attending the meeting, etc.), statement of career goals in fishery science or management, and reasons why financial assistance is needed. Additional requirements are a vita, a confidential letter of endorsement from a faculty member from the applicant's home institution/department, and an ABSTRACT of an oral or poster presentation submitted for the GCFI Conference. Note: to be eligible for this Scholarship applicants must fill out the Abstract Submittal Form located on the GCFI web page ([www.gcfi.org](http://www.gcfi.org)). Completed application with all supporting paperwork, including a copy of the abstract, must be sent to [Student Awards](#), and must be received by the Student Awards Committee by 15 August.

**Selection Criteria:** Selection of the awardee by the Ronald L. Schmied Scholarship Committee will be based on a review and assessment of information submitted by applicants.