

Request for Applications
Montana Water Center
Student Research Fellowships



Application due date:
November 20, 2009

The Montana University System Water Center announces its 2010-11 Student Research Fellowship Program. Awards are available for both graduate and undergraduate student water researchers. To apply, you must be enrolled at a Montana institution of higher education at least through the end of 2010, and conducting or planning to conduct water research. Projects proposed for fellowship support should relate to water resource issues in the state or region. Applications are due at the Water Center no later than 5:00 p.m., **November 20, 2009**. Winning applications will be selected by the Water Center Director and Associate Directors, and announcement of awards will be made by **December 18, 2009**.

- All Fellowship applicants must follow the application guidelines on the following page.
- Fellowship awards will be in the \$1,000 to \$5,000 range.
- Fellowships are available to Montana graduate or undergraduate students in full standing who will be performing a senior research project, masters or doctoral project in a water resources field.
- Fellowships provide a stipend for the student. Other research costs are met by the advisor's research grants, department, college, collaborators, etc. The 2010-11 Fellowship stipends will cover work performed between March 2010 and February 2011, and will be paid in two installments, July 2010 and February 2011.
- Applicants should have a research project defined and approved by their undergraduate advisor or graduate advisory committee. Applicants must demonstrate, or show potential for, good research productivity (conference presentations, manuscripts submitted, etc.).
- It is recommended that applicants contact local, regional or state water resource professionals to affirm that the proposed research addresses a contemporary Montana water resource problem or area of study. If so, cooperative agreements involving additional funding or in-kind contributions to the Fellowship project may be possible, and will be viewed favorably in the selection process.
- Reporting requirements: Water Research Fellows will be asked to submit brief summaries of their research progress in June 2010 and January 2011. These may be quoted or reprinted in Water Center publications.

**GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF 2010 MONTANA WATER CENTER
STUDENT RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS**

Applications must be prepared **by the student**, with input from the research advisor where needed. Your application **must** include the following four items:

1. A **cover letter** to introduce yourself, that:

- summarizes your post-secondary education and current field of study, and names your research advisor
- cites progress in your degree program (courses completed, candidacy or comprehensive exams, anticipated completion date)
- includes your research specialization and project title
- lists your professional and scholastic accomplishments (presentations, publications, awards)
- mentions other funding you expect to receive in 2010 and 2011.

Guidelines for preparing a basic business letter can be found here:

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/pw/p_basicbusletter.html

2. A **letter of support** from your faculty advisor or department head

3. A **short proposal** (4 pages maximum) to include:

- Research Project Title
- The Problem - description of the state or regional water problem addressed by your research – **in your words, not cut and pasted from your professor's proposal to a funding agency**
- Objectives of the proposed research (if research is underway, briefly summarize progress to date)
- Research Methods and Facilities
- Anticipated Results or Benefits of this work (“the deliverables”)
- Key Literature – a short list of references, if applicable – not required.

4. **Transcripts** of your undergraduate and graduate studies. Electronic downloads from university websites are adequate.

The **deadline for receipt** of applications is 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 20, 2009. Submit a paper copy of the entire application, including letter(s) of support, to:

Steve Guettermann, Assistant Director for Outreach

Montana Water Center

101 Huffman Building

Montana State University

Bozeman, MT 59717-2690

406.994-1772 (call here if you have questions)

The application must **also be sent as an e-mail attachment** in MS Word to:

stephen.guettermann@montana.edu

(The electronic application need not include support letters, but it can.)