



Foundation Accepting Graduate Student Scholarship Applications

Submission Deadline: September 22, 2025

The Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees is again offering four \$5,000 scholarships to apiculture graduate students in 2025. The purpose of this scholarship program, now in its sixteenth year, is to foster professional development of emerging apicultural scientists by allowing award recipients to attend the 2026 American Beekeeping Federation (ABF) Conference & Tradeshow from January 6-10 in Mobile, Alabama.

Affiliated with the ABF, the Foundation is a charitable organization focused on making funding available for research and educational endeavors within the beekeeping industry. It has benefited tremendously from many generous gifts, including the estates of Glenn and Gertrude Overturf and Margaret and Victor Thompson, and continues to be sustained by ongoing gifts from ABF members and other supportive donors.

Graduate students **currently enrolled** in a university and studying any aspect of honey bees, bee husbandry and/or the apiculture industry are eligible to apply for one of the scholarships being offered. Each award recipient will receive a \$5,000 scholarship check, and moreover, in 2026, the foundation will reimburse conference travel and lodging expenses up to \$750. During the 2026 ABF Conference & Tradeshow, graduate students will have the opportunity to meet the Foundation Board of Trustees, as well as fellow researchers and beekeepers, and will be invited to present their research during the event's Foundation Luncheon.

Scholarship applications will be accepted through September 22, 2025.

Application Criteria:

Each applicant must submit the following for consideration, **as one combined PDF document with their name as the file name (e.g., JaneSmith.pdf):**

1. **A one-page cover letter from a university advisor outlining:**
 - The student's progress toward their graduate degree (Master's or PhD);
 - Tentative graduation date;
 - Any other pertinent information about the student; and
 - Any information about the research that would help "get to know" the student.
2. **The student's curriculum vitae or resume, not to exceed two pages.**
3. **A research proposal (not to exceed three pages), written by the graduate student. This proposal should:**
 - Begin with a title and an introduction to the research problem, followed by clear goals and objectives that state the research questions and hypotheses;

- Outline specific research experiments the student is conducting while completing their degree;
- Describe research the student is planning to perform or the progress the student has already made toward that research;
- Clearly state how the research benefits bees, beekeepers and/or the apiculture industry;
- Discuss the methods that will be used to answer the research questions and the expected results or results to date; and
- Be written for a general audience. *Many of the reviewers of the proposals are beekeepers who are genuinely interested in understanding the importance and implications of the research.*

All applications must be submitted by email to the Foundation's Executive Director Debbie Seib at abfnet.org@gmail.com no later than September 22, 2025. Email submissions must include the applicant's name, mailing address, email address and phone number. Please use the subject line: 2025 Foundation Scholarship Application.

Award recipients will be selected late in October 2025. Award letters containing detailed information about the scholarship and 2026 ABF Conference & Tradeshow information will be delivered in November 2025.

For questions or additional information about the Foundation for the Preservation of Honey Bees, contact Executive Director Debbie Seib at abfnet.org@gmail.com