

Cofrin Center for Biodiversity's Call for Student Grant Applications

Overview

The Cofrin Center for Biodiversity (CCB) offers an exciting, annual student grant opportunity that provides funds (\$2,500 and more) to students to gain experience in the fields of ecology, biology, geology, water science, environmental policy, engineering, exercise fitness, photography, art, history, First Nations studies, education, and inclusivity/diversity/equity. Funds awarded to undergraduate or graduate students are used to complete a project in collaboration with a UW-Green Bay faculty or staff member. Students may propose to work on a new project of interest to them or help fund existing work (e.g., master's thesis, independent study). They may apply for up to five different grant opportunities outlined in the CCB Student Grant Application ([pdf link](#)), which provides a minimum of \$2,500 plus additional funds.

Eligibility

Any undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at any UW-Green Bay campus may apply.

Deadlines

- April 15 - Grant applications due to biodiversity@uwgb.edu
- May 1 - Applicants are notified of the decision; grant committee will evaluate projects using rubric
- March or April (of following year) - Grant recipients are required to present at the annual Cofrin Student Research Grant Symposium
- May 1 (of following year) - Grant recipients are required to turn in an archive of the project (e.g., raw data files, photographs, metadata), borrowed or purchased equipment (unless otherwise instructed), and a final report to the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity's Data Manager.

How to Apply

Students interested in applying should first contact an appropriate UW-Green Bay faculty or staff member to discuss or develop a project. Once the project has been planned, the student must email their completed CCB Student Grant Application ([pdf link](#)) and a brief (2-5 pages) grant proposal containing the following information (biodiversity@uwgb.edu; CC your advisor to the email submission):

- *Basic Information:* Student name, student email, student advisor's name, and a descriptive project title
- *Introduction:* Literature review and project objectives

- *Proposed Methods*: Must clearly explain the field, lab, or project methodologies, location of study, expected data analysis, and project schedule and duration
- *Anticipated Outcomes or Results*: Describe what you expect your project to produce
- *Proposed Budget*: Please itemize with associated costs and links (when appropriate):
 - Equipment and supplies
 - Estimated mileage or fleet vehicle rentals (will be billed at current state rates, \$0.655/mi); to drive fleet vehicles or request mileage reimbursement, student must be **authorized to drive**
 - No need to include a stipend request as that will be determined by the grants committee and which grants for which you applied
- Proposals should be submitted as a .doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf files.

See an [example proposal](#) for more guidance on writing the proposal. Note that the Cofrin Center for Biodiversity can loan students the following equipment: GPS units, binoculars, spotting scopes, compasses, water thermometers, plant presses, writing utensils, hand lens, dbh tapes, trail cameras, SD cards, and counters. We also have a reference library for you to browse.

Research Project Examples

Students may propose any project of their choosing as long as the project meets the criteria outlined in the CCB Student Grant Application ([pdf link](#)). Here are some project examples for students to consider:

- Biological inventories of any of our natural areas across any taxa (e.g., birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, spiders, mosses, ferns, plants)
- Photography, illustration, or video project of birds at Point au Sable and Wequiock Natural Areas
- Natural and cultural history of indigenous people from one of UW-Green Bay's natural areas
- Curation and databasing of specimens from CCB natural areas in Richter Museum or Fewless Herbarium
- Building outreach materials (e.g., laminated quick guide on mammals/birds/bugs of a natural area)
- Work with our natural areas team on adaptive management of vegetation communities
- Understanding the genetics of a plant species at Kingfisher Farm Natural Area
- Monitor water clarity and oxygen levels using an environmental sensor at Mahon Creek
- Curation and databasing of fern and lycophyte specimens collected at Toft Point Natural Area
- Development of K-12 student curriculum for the Cofrin Memorial Arboretum
- Mindfulness study or the psychology of spending time outdoors
- Environmental engineering and technology
- Peatland bryophyte survey of Toft Point Natural Area
- Drone video project capturing our natural areas across the seasons
- Fungal diversity study at Wequiock Creek Natural Area