



NASPS Student Mentor Collaboration Award, 2023

The North American Sturgeon and Paddlefish Society (NASPS) is requesting applications for the NASPS Student Mentor Collaboration Award. The purpose of this award is to establish a collaborative link between a graduate student working on sturgeon or paddlefish research and a sturgeon or paddlefish researcher or manager to aid in the completion of the student's degree. The role of collaborator is to transfer field, laboratory, or analytical methods, techniques, and knowledge to the graduate student. Collaborations should directly advance science and lead to career development for the student. A single award will be given annually for up to \$2,500 USD.

Applicant Requirements: The student must be 1) enrolled as a full-time MS or Ph.D. student in Canada or the U.S. during the tenure of the award working with sturgeons or paddlefish and 2) both the student and their collaborators must be members of NASPS during the tenure of the award.

Application Process: The graduate student must submit in a single PDF packet the following: a CV with current GPA, cover letter, budget, letter from major professor/advisor, and letter from the collaborator. The cover letter should describe 1) the student's current research question and the implications of their research for sturgeon or paddlefish conservation and/or management, 2) the direct benefit of or need for the collaboration to advance science and the student's career, and 3) the specifics of the collaboration (i.e. technique or analysis to be learned, time required for collaborative effort, etc). The cover letter should be no more than two pages (12 point font, single spaced, 1 inch margins).

The budget should detail how funds will be spent (see budget template as an example). The bulk of the funds may go to travel costs (transportation and housing). The grant may not be used to purchase equipment. Consumables may be included if required to complete the research project but may not exceed \$500. The award will be given directly to the selected student, so no indirect costs (agency or university costs) are allowed. The award must be used within 1 year of issuance of the check by NASPS to the student.

The letter from the major professor/advisor should describe the value of and need for developing the collaboration for the student's research and completion of degree and the student's merit. This letter should not exceed 1 page.

The letter from the collaborator should describe the role of collaborator in the transfer of technology or knowledge to the graduate student. Details on the collaborator's contribution in terms of space, time, equipment and consumables should also be included. This letter should not exceed 1 page. The collaborator may be contacted by a member of the governing board in regards to meeting objectives of the award during or after the tenure of the award.

Application Deadline: June 30, 2023

Announcement of Grantee: The grantee will be announced at the NASPS annual meeting at AFS 2023. The grantee does not have to be present to accept the award.

Reporting Process: A report by the student detailing the collaboration between the graduate student and collaborator must be submitted to NASPS within three months of completion of the collaboration, and no later than 15 months following receipt of the award. The NASPS should be acknowledged within all presentations, reports, and publications of the work resulting from the collaboration.

Application Submission: The application packet must be submitted to nasps@nasps-sturgeon.org by the application deadline. Questions may be directed to nasps@nasps-sturgeon.org.

Budget Template

Travel

Airfare

Car Rental

Mileage (\$0.54/mile)

Housing/lodging

Per Diem/meals, incidental expenses (\$/day)

Other

Travel Subtotal

Supplies

List supplies

Supply Subtotal

TOTAL