



Kansas Academy of Science Student Research Grant Program

The Kansas Academy of Science (KAS) Student Research Grant Program has been established to foster the scientific research endeavors of student members of the KAS or students whose major advisor is a member of the KAS. Research funds may be used to support investigation in any scientific field and in any locality.

Competitive grants may be awarded for up to \$2,000 for Ph.D. and Masters and up to \$1,500 for Undergraduate Student Research Grants. Up to **eight grants** may be awarded each grant year: **three for undergraduate work and five for Masters or PhD work.**

Funding is to be used by the student to pay for expenses incurred in doing research. Common expenditures are:

- The purchase of supplies and equipment,
- Travel to and from research sites,
- The purchase or collection of data.

Funding may not be used for:

- Tuition, room and board, textbooks, curriculum development,
- Travel to scientific meetings or symposia,
- Salaries or stipends for applicants or assistants,
- Manuscript preparation and publication costs.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Applications will only be accepted from student members of the KAS or students whose research advisor is a member of the KAS. Student applicants must be currently enrolled in a degree seeking program at a Kansas university or college.
2. A student can receive the KAS Student Research Grant only once as an undergraduate student and only once as a graduate student.
3. All students receiving awards must complete the research prior to their graduation.

Application/Submission/Notification Procedures

Complete applications will consist of the following:

1. Letter of application from the student (1 page limit)
2. Project Data Sheet (found at the end of this document)
3. Research proposal containing the following sections: (4 page limit)
 - a. Statement of goals and/or hypothesis
 - b. Relevant background information
 - c. Materials and Methods
 - d. Expected outcomes/Significance of the research
 - e. References
 - f. Timeline for completion of the research

4. Detailed budget with justifications for expenses. If applicable, include a statement on how this grant relates to past and future funds from other sources. (2 page limit)
5. *Curriculum Vita* for the applicant (2 page limit)
6. Two letters of support from faculty members mailed directly to the chair of the Scholarship Committee. One of the supporting letters must come from the student's research advisor and the other must be from a KAS member if the student's supervisor is not a member of KAS.

The fall undergraduate research grant proposal submission deadline is October 9, 2026.

Electronic submission in PDF format via e-mail is highly encouraged.

Submit proposals to:

Dr. Erin R. Morris
Baker University
Biology Department
PO Box 65
Baldwin City, KS 66006

emorris@bakeru.edu (E-mail submission of materials in PDF format is preferred)

Proposals will be reviewed by a multidisciplinary committee determined by the KAS council. Applicants should receive notification about funding and receive funds (if the grant is awarded) by November 1, 2026 so that research can be completed during the 2026-2027 academic year. Student awardees will be recognized at the KAS Annual Meeting in the spring and are required to present at least preliminary results of their research at that meeting. (KAS Annual Meeting registration and meal fees will be waived for the student awardees).

Expectations of the Applicant Upon the Receipt of Funding

1. If the proposal is funded, applicants agree to publication of their name and the title of their grant proposal in the KAS newsletter, *The Bulletin*, and/or in the *Transactions of the Kansas Academy of Science*.
2. A review letter to the KAS scholarship committee will be expected by May 1 of the calendar year after funding has been received. This letter should describe what has been done to date on the research project, how the funds were spent, when the project is to be concluded, if not already completed, and any publications, abstracts, presentations, or pending publications/abstracts that have resulted from the funded research. This letter should also detail the future plans of the student with regard to their career or further education. Failure to comply with this requirement could jeopardize future KAS research funding for that student's research mentor, department, and/or institution.
3. The applicant will be expected to give an oral presentation of the results of their completed research that was funded via a KAS Research Grant at a professional meeting (e.g. the Annual Meeting of the Kansas Academy of Science, Annual Meeting of the Kansas Herpetological Society, Annual Meeting of the Kansas Fisheries Society, etc.).
4. A document suitable for submission for publication will also be expected within two years of the date of funding.

5. Any publication that results from the work funded by the KAS Research Grant should acknowledge the KAS Grant Program in the publication.

Tips for Preparing a Successful Application

- The proposal should be single spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, with one inch margins top, bottom, left, and right.
- Schedule a meeting with your research advisor to talk about your research goals. Doing this will help you to write a better, more informed research proposal.
- As others outside of your field will be reviewing your proposal, make sure that it is written in language that a scientifically literate person will understand. Be careful not to include technical jargon specific to your field without sufficient explanation.
- State your goals and hypothesis clearly.
- State the background information in your proposal very briefly. Avoid the common pitfall of presenting too much background and neglecting to develop methods and objectives.
- The background information provided should lead the reviewer to understand why you have asked the question you have and why it is important to answer this question.
- Describe your methods.
- Prepare a detailed budget with justifications for expenses.
- Indicate the significance of this research and how your study contributes to the larger picture of research in your field of study.
- Have others not familiar with your work review your proposal to ensure that it would be clear to others outside of your field.
- Follow the directions and meet the deadlines.



Kansas Academy of Science Project Data Sheet

PROJECT DATA

Proposal Title _____

Expected Completion Date of Research _____

Is completion of this project dependent on receipt of funding from sources other than this Grant?
__ Yes (please clarify in letter of application and/or budget justification) __ No

STUDENT DATA

Name _____

Mailing Address _____
Address

City, State Zip

Phone _____ Alt. Phone _____

E-mail _____

SCHOLASTIC DATA

School _____

Department _____

Degree Sought __ B.A. __ B.S. __ M.A. __ M.S. __ Ph.D. __ Other _____

Fall semester status __ Freshman __ Sophomore __ Junior __ Senior
__ Master's Student __ Ph.D. student

Expected Degree Completion Date _____

RESEARCH ADVISOR DATA

Name _____

Business Address _____

Address

City, State Zip

Business Phone _____

E-mail _____