

EXPLORERS CLUB WASHINGTON GROUP

EXPLORATION AND FIELD RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

The Explorers Club Washington Group's Exploration and Field Research Grants Program was established to encourage young men and women to add to the body of knowledge of the earth, its people and the universe through exploration and field research. Examples of disciplines appropriate for support are anthropology, archaeology, botany, ecology, entomology, geography, geology, glaciology, ichthyology, linguistics, oceanography, ornithology, and similar disciplines.

Grants are available to graduate students who are enrolled in a college or university in the local area (Washington, DC; Virginia; West Virginia; Maryland) and who are under the supervision of a qualified scientist or educator. The activity may occur anywhere in the world. It should be emphasized that those expeditions supported will be for scientific purposes, in accordance with the Explorers Club's stated objective, "to broaden our knowledge of the universe".

The grants are intended to provide supplemental funds to support fieldwork or closely related endeavors, and generally range from three to six thousand dollars. While the awards are small, former grantees have successfully used their awards to collect preliminary data leading to other awards or to augment support for items not covered elsewhere. Allowable items include travel to specialized facilities or field research locations, purchase of supplies, rental of field or research facilities, study participant compensation, and similar items. Funds may not be used for stipends, tuition, textbooks, journals, language training, allowances for dependents, travel to scientific meetings, publication costs, reproduction, or indirect costs. Childcare costs will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Field assistant services, when essential for a successful field project, will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Additionally, childcare costs will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The ECWG gives awarded funds directly to the student grant recipient. Any further arrangements necessary for purchases of equipment or payment of services, such as field assistance, childcare, etc., are the responsibility of the grantee. Grantees must submit a report of the activity and a statement of expenses at the end of the award period. Publications based on work supported entirely or in part by the ECWG should credit the Explorers Club Washington Group's Exploration and Field Research Grants Program. Copies of the publications resulting from the project should be forwarded to the Explorers Club Washington Group. A letter of agreement to these terms between the ECWG and the recipient must be signed prior to the award.

Applications must be received using Explorers Club Washington Group's standard forms, available below. Please submit proposal applications as a pdf document to: Recommendation letters may be submitted by email to: ecwggrantscommittee@gmail.com and all application materials must be received by **February 1, 2026** by midnight. Incomplete applications, applications not using the standard forms, or applications received after this date will not be considered. Awards are expected to be announced by **March 31, 2026**.

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WHO MAY SUBMIT:

Any graduate student enrolled in a college or university in the local area (Washington, DC; Virginia; West Virginia; or Maryland).

WHAT TO SUBMIT:

1) One copy of the application package (submitted as a pdf), which includes:

- Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae Form
- Abstract of the Project
- Project Description
- Budget

2) Two references to be submitted separately by referee to ecwggrantscommittee@gmail.com. Please have your referees submit the letters by midnight, February 1, 2026 and ensure the applicant's name is in subject line.

Please submit your 2026 ECWG Exploration & Field Research Grants here. ([submission portal](#))

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 1, 2026 by midnight

EXPECTED GRANTS ANNOUNCEMENT DATE: March 31, 2026

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APPLICATION FORM

Name of Applicant: _____

Address for correspondence: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Educational Institution: _____

Address (if different from above):

Name of Graduate Supervisor of the Applicant:

Address for correspondence:

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Title of the Project: _____

Duration of the Project: _____

Location of the Project: _____

Name of Referee 1:

Email Address:

Name of Referee 2:

Email Address:

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APPLICANT'S CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: _____

Undergraduate Education:

Institution: _____

Degree and Date Conferred: _____

Major/Minor: _____

Graduate Education:

Institution: _____

Department: _____

Thesis/Dissertation Advisor: _____

Degree and Date Expected: _____

Title of Thesis Research: _____

Additional Graduate or Undergraduate Education, if any:

Institution: _____

Department: _____

Description: _____

Awards within the Past 3 Years: _____

List of your Publications (Use an attachment, if necessary):

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ABSTRACT OF THE PROJECT:

Do not exceed 200 words. Please use the narrative form.

Applicant's Name: _____

Title of Project: _____

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

(Do not exceed 3 pages):

Describe the Project, and include:

1. The overall objectives of the Project
2. Your role in the project
3. The significance of your participation in the project (if you are participating in a project led by others)
4. The significance or expected impact of the overall project (Note: Your project will be reviewed by a team of individuals with a broad range of expertise, so placing your project in a context of broader significance will be of interest to those outside your discipline.)

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BUDGET

(Note: Most awards range from three to six thousand dollars)

Please provide a budget breakdown with costs listed per item
Attach a list of current support (include source and amount)
Attach a list of pending grants (include source and amount)

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RECOMMENDATION FORM

Name of Applicant: _____

Referee: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____ *Date:* _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

Submit this coversheet form and your recommendation letter as a single pdf file. Please include information on how long you have known the applicant and in what capacity; how the proposed project will further the goals of increasing knowledge in the areas of exploration and field research and how participation in the proposed project will contribute to the development of the applicant's career or make a contribution to the field. Attach additional pages as needed.

Please send your recommendation letter to [mail to: ecwggrantscommittee@gmail.com](mailto:ecwggrantscommittee@gmail.com). Please ensure that the student's name is in the subject line.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 1, 2026 by midnight