



An Organization of People Interested in the Natural Sciences

Rochester Academy of Science

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August 19, 2026

Announcement of Science Research Grants Available to Undergraduate Students

To: Natural Science Academic Department Heads in Upstate New York Colleges and Universities

Please forward this to the faculty in your department, especially ones with student researchers. This has been sent to Department heads only, with copies to your aide if found. We have sent this to departments such as Anthropology, Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Earth Science/Geology/Geosciences, Environmental Science/Conservation, Physics & Astronomy, Neuroscience, and Psychology.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR 2026-2027 ACADEMIC YEAR

The Rochester Academy of Science will award grants in January 2027 for supplies and travel related expenses for research projects performed by undergraduate college students.

One grant of up to \$750 to the student's college plus an unrestricted award of \$50 to the student will be awarded to the top proposal. This is the *Dr. William L. Hallahan Award for Excellence in Grant Proposal Writing*. Partial funding of at least \$400 will be provided to eight or more additional proposals. For 2025-26, the Academy made eleven grants totaling \$6,000. (See <https://rasny.org/student-grant-program> for details.) Funds for these grants come primarily from the Katherine H. Jensen Memorial Research Grant Fund, the Thomas F. & Annie A. and Grace Murray Memorial Research Grant Funds and the Student Grants Endowment Fund. Applications for these grants will be judged on their merit as scientific research and for clear, concise description of the project according to the directions.

Proposals in any area of scientific study are encouraged. It is the general philosophy of the reviewers, however, to favor funding research in areas similar to those of the members of the Rochester Academy of Science. These interests include all aspects of natural history, including astronomy, anthropology and archeology, biology/botany/ entomology/mycology/ornithology/zoology, biochemistry, chemistry, conservation and environmental science/ecology, earth science/geology/geosciences/mineralogy/paleontology, physics, neuroscience, psychology, and the like.

Information about the Rochester Academy of Science can be found at <http://www.rasny.org>.

These grants are intended to help students who are working toward undergraduate degrees to purchase expendable materials for use in their projects and for travel expenses to collect data, but not for laboratory equipment. Each research grant will be issued to the science department of the student's school. It is expected that the student's school will provide use of appropriate equipment and laboratory space. The research project may be in progress but must be designed to be completed within one year. The application must have the written endorsement of a sponsoring faculty member. The sponsor is also expected to see that the student completes the project if the grant is awarded. We recognize that the faculty sponsor may have a significant role in guiding and developing the research project. However, the undergraduate student must write the grant proposal submitted to the Grants Committee for consideration.

Specific directions for applications can be downloaded at <https://rasny.org/student-grant-program>.

Questions may be addressed to the RAS Grants Committee Chairperson, Michael Grenier, at paleo@frontier.com.

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