



October 12, 2022

### ***Executive Summary***

Dimensions Sciences is calling for applications to the first edition of the *District Capital One Award for Diversity in Sciences*.

This Award aims to foster diversity in sciences and will grant PhD students from underrepresented racial groups with two (2) one-time prizes of US\$1,500 and up to three (3) honorable mentions of US\$500 each. Candidates must be American citizens and be performing doctoral research in an accredited Institution in the National Capital Region portion of the Washington Metropolitan Area (DMV area). The candidates must hold an active PhD position and be already approved in the doctoral qualifying examination in an academic US research institution. We are specifically seeking highly motivated applicants from a diverse gender and racial background working in projects focused on the Life or Health Sciences field. The candidates will be evaluated based on scientific merit, potential impact of research projects, and candidate's trajectory.

Applications for the *District Capital One Award* are open. Deadline for applications will be on **Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 11:59 PM ET**. The Award Ceremony and networking event will take place virtually on **Monday, December 12, 2022, at 6:00 - 8:00 PM (ET)**.

### ***Program description***

1. Main Goals:
  - a. Support the inclusion of American students from underrepresented groups in PhD programs in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) in the Washington DC area;
  - b. Recognize American students from underrepresented groups generating groundbreaking research with innovative potential in STEM;
  - c. Increase visibility to underrepresented groups pursuing a PhD in STEM in the U.S. and abroad; and

- d. Promote a qualified diverse workforce in sciences and technology in the U.S. and abroad.
2. Who is eligible (Must respond to all):
  - a. Black/African American; Hispanic/LatinX; American Indian/Alaska Native; Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander
  - b. American citizen;
  - c. Enrolled in a Ph.D. program in a US accredited Institution in the National Capital Region portion of the Washington Metropolitan Area (DMV area);
  - d. Hold a Qualifying Examination;
  - e. Conduct research in the Life Sciences or Medical Sciences;
3. General rules:
  - a. Selection of candidates will be decided by the Scientific Advisory Board of Dimensions Sciences, following an independent Ad-Hoc expert peer-review evaluation;
  - b. Benefits to awardees will consist of two one-time prize of US\$1,500 and up to 3 honorable mentions of US \$500;
  - c. This is a one-time prize given to an individual awardee. Organizations are not eligible.
4. Prize:
  - a. The funds will be disbursed using the individual's bank account in the sole name of the individual awardee. Awardee must hold a valid bank account in the US.
5. Roles and responsibilities:
  - a. Dimensions Sciences:
    - i. will make final decision on candidate selection and approval of awardee and honorable mentions;
    - ii. will be responsible for providing the funds for selected awardees;
    - iii. will survey the awardees to quantify impact of award for a period of up to 5 years after the award.
  - b. The awardee:
    - i. must respond to inclusion criteria

- ii. must be American citizen;
- iii. must be enrolled in a Ph.D. program in a US accredited Institution in the DMV area;
- iv. must hold a doctoral qualifying examination;
- v. must be accountable for responsibilities under their award agreement with Dimensions Sciences;
- vi. must be present at the Award ceremony;
- vii. agrees to participate in annual surveys including but not limited to research activities, research grants, scholarships, scientific production, jobs, and salaries for a period of up to 5 years after the award;
- viii. allows the use of pictures, videos, and biographies in marketing and fundraising materials of Dimensions Sciences.

6. Candidate evaluation by Dimensions Sciences' Scientific committee:

- a. Curriculum vitae of the candidate, highlighting the most relevant publications and/or scientific achievements;
- b. Recommendation letter from supervisor in letterhead. The letter must contain: 1) confirm that you are actively enrolled in a Ph.D. program in a US accredited Institution in the National Capital Region portion of the Washington Metropolitan Area (DMV area); 2) confirm that you have completed a qualifying exam; 3) explain why you are the best candidate for this award (PDF)
- c. Candidate statement of project impact. Short video of the candidate presenting their personal and professional history, the reasons that motivated them to pursue this scientific project and their expectations about how this participation will impact their professional life. Guidelines: (videos are part of the selection process) 1. Total duration: Max. 3 minutes. 2. Language: English. 3. Presentation: The candidate must appear in the video (slide narrated or animations will not be considered). 4. The video must contain: candidate's personal trajectory, presentation of the project, and expected impact on the candidates' lives. 5. You must provide the video link uploaded in YouTube.

7. Timeline

<b>Date</b>	<b>What is happening</b>
<b>Oct 1</b>	Release request for applications
<b>Oct 10</b>	Open for application

<b>Nov 17</b>	Application deadline
<b>Dec 12</b>	Prize ceremony

Application link:

<https://forms.gle/7w3pijwWzanRNF9LA>