

The Awards and Scholarship (A&S) Committee will assess the student's application based on the following criteria. This Rubric was updated by the Awards & Scholarships committee in October 2025.

Proposal Criteria & Rating Rubric	Evaluation Points
<i>Plagiarism</i> Does the proposal have plagiarism issues (including self-plagiarism)? (More than 10%, the proposal will not be reviewed anymore)	Yes/No
<i>Alignment with Award Goals:</i> Does the application address the objectives of the fund(s)? (If no; proposal will not be considered for review anymore)	Yes/No
<i>Need/Justification:</i> How well is the project need described? (1) What is its importance/relevance to the discipline? (1)	2 points
<i>Research Plan:</i> Is the proposed approach/methodology to be used for the research well described? (2) Does the research plan match the research objectives or the research hypotheses? (2)	4 points
<i>Timeline:</i> Is enough detail provided to assess how the project will progress (based on the example provided on our website)? (1)	1 point
<i>Budget:</i> Is the budget clear, appropriate; to what extent will the award fund the project? Provided: A budget chart (or any other format) specifying costs (1) A budget narrative explaining each projected expense (1) Explanation of any other funding sources received to help fund project (1)	3 points
<i>Recommendation Letter from the main advisor:</i> Does the letter explain the following questions? The student's standing point in graduate school (1) Why do other funding sources could not support this objective of the student's thesis? (1) Alignment of recommendation letter with the proposal objectives (1)	3 points
<i>Overall Points</i>	13 points