

AIAA Foundation Graduate Awards

Deadline for submission of applications 31 January

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics is to advance the arts, sciences, and technology of aeronautics and astronautics. The Institute encourages original research; furthers the dissemination of new knowledge; fosters the professional development of those engaged in scientific and engineering activities; improves public understanding of the profession and its contributions; fosters education in engineering and science; promotes communication among engineers and scientists, as well as other professional groups; and stimulates outstanding professional accomplishments. Funding for these awards is provided through the AIAA Foundation, the nonprofit educational arm of the AIAA.

This program was instituted in the fall of 1977 and now presents 14 graduate awards annually.

ELIGIBILITY

The following eligibility requirements should be met by applicants for the AIAA Foundation/Graduate Awards:

1. Applicant must have completed at least one semester of full-time graduate study. Transcripts must include grades through the most recent Fall Semester.
2. Applicant must have a graduate grade point average of not less than the equivalent of a **3.30** on a **4.00** scale.
3. Applicant shall be enrolled in a graduate program of an accredited college or university at the time of application.
4. Applicant **must** be an AIAA member in good standing at the time of application and through the time of the award.
5. Applicant's education plan shall be such as to provide entry into some field of science or engineering encompassed by the technical activities of AIAA.
6. Applicant shall not have, or subsequently receive, any other award which, when combined with the AIAA Foundation Graduate Award, would provide a stipend greater than their tuition plus educational expenses (such as books, lab fees, room, board, etc.) estimated by the educational institution he/she plans to attend.
7. Applicant can receive a specific AIAA Graduate Award only once, but may apply for different awards in subsequent years.
8. Applicants may be students of any nationality, not restricted by the U.S. State Department. Applicants must be in full-time study at any accredited college or university within the United States except for the three following graduate awards. Students in universities outside the United States are eligible to apply for the:
 - Guidance, Navigation, and Control Graduate Award
 - Orville and Wilbur Wright Graduate Award

SELECTION CRITERIA

The recipients of the Graduate Awards will be selected on the basis of the following criteria which are listed in order of importance.

1. *Scholarship*

This criterion shall be evaluated on the basis of the applicant's graduate grade point average or its equivalent. A graduate grade point average of not less than a **3.30** (B+) is required. You must submit an official graduate transcript to be eligible (if you attended more than **one graduate** school, graduate transcripts from ALL schools must be provided).

2. *Research Plan*

The applicant shall submit a research plan as a PDF attachment, not to exceed 20 pages, single-spaced, with font size 10-pt or larger. This research plan should not include previously published work (e.g. conference or journal papers), but should be a summary of the state of the art in the research field and a detailed description of the proposed research.

3. *Career Goals*

This criterion will be evaluated by assessment of a 500-1,000 word essay. The essay should specify the career objectives of the applicant and should outline the academic program that will be followed to achieve those career objectives.

4. *Recommendations*

Each applicant must include no more and no less than three (3) letters of recommendation. *Recommendations from relatives will not be accepted.* All letters of recommendation should be submitted through the online system, which allows PDF attachments. Paper letters will no longer be accepted.

Recommendations must be completed by 31 January.

5. *Extracurricular Activities*

Each applicant's college and community activities, offices, awards, and work experience will receive due consideration.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE AWARD PROGRAM

1. *General*

AIAA Technical Committees, or subcommittees thereof, will act as the Graduate Award Committees, subject to the selection guidelines established by the AIAA Student Activities Committee. These committees will be responsible for evaluating all applications and for selecting the award recipients in the specialized fields. AIAA Headquarters shall serve as the custodian and disbursing agency for the award funds and will be responsible for handling the administrative details of the program.

2. *Publicity*

The Graduate Award Program will be publicized in *Aerospace America*, the *AIAA Student Journal*, and in various AIAA section "Newsletters" or "Bulletins." The award program will also be publicized in other appropriate national publications which list various scholarship programs and awards that are available to students.

3. *Submission of Applications*

The online application (including recommendations, essays, etc.) must be completed by 31 January, for consideration. Official College Transcripts must arrive at AIAA Headquarters by 31 January.

Official college transcripts should be addressed to:

**AIAA Student Programs
1801 Alexander Bell Drive
Suite 500
Reston, VA 20191-4344**

It is the responsibility of the applicant to have a completed application package at the above address by the deadline date.

The Online application is available at the following webpage under Scholarships:

<http://www.aiaa.org/students>

4. *Selection of Award Recipients*

The decision of the AIAA Student Activities Committee is considered to be final and all candidates will be advised of the outcome in June for the following fall semester or quarter.

5. *Disbursement of Graduate Awards*

Disbursement of graduate awards shall be made in the form of a check in the name of the recipient and sent directly to the recipient. An IRS Form 1099 will be issued to the recipient at the end of the year in accordance with federal law. Recipients should consult a tax professional to determine whether any tax liability applies.

6. *Restrictions*

Anyone involved in an AIAA National Technical Committee, Education Committee, or other AIAA National Member Committee or National Subcommittee, is not eligible for this award.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

1. The John Leland Atwood Graduate Award

The John Leland Atwood Graduate Award is sponsored by endowments from Rockwell and Boeing North American, Inc. The Atwood Graduate Award memorializes John Leland "Lee" Atwood (1904-1999), former chief executive officer of Rockwell North American. Atwood, thought of by many as the "dean of aerospace", was instrumental in the development of such landmark projects as the P-51, the F-100, the X-15, the B-1 bomber and the Space Shuttle. Eligible applicants for the Atwood Graduate Award must be actively participating in research endeavors in one of the more than 65 specialty areas represented by AIAA Technical Committees. (Be sure to indicate on the application your chosen area of specialization.) Official recognition and presentation of the check to the recipient will be made in conjunction with the Awards Presentations Ceremony at the AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting. In addition, the AIAA Foundation will present the recipient with a special recognition plaque in honor of this award.

2. The Martin Summerfield Graduate Award in Propellants and Combustion

Funding for this award is provided through individual memorial gifts (given after the death of Martin Summerfield) and the AIAA Foundation. Eligible applicants will be actively participating in research endeavors in propellants and combustion as part of their graduate studies. Official recognition will be made in conjunction with the Awards Presentations Ceremony at the AIAA/SAE/ASME/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference. In addition, the AIAA Foundation will present the recipient with a special recognition plaque in honor of this award.

3. Guidance, Navigation, and Control Graduate Award

This program was instituted in 1998 by the AIAA Guidance, Navigation, and Control Technical Committee. Eligible applicants will be participating (or plan on future participation) in research endeavors that will impact one or more of the areas of guidance, navigation, and control as part of their graduate studies. Official recognition and presentation of the check to the recipient will be in conjunction with the Awards Presentation Ceremony at the AIAA Guidance, Navigation, and Control Conference. In addition, the AIAA Foundation will present the recipient with a special recognition plaque in honor of this award. *Non-U.S. citizens are eligible to apply, as are students at non-U.S. schools.* Past winners are ineligible for 3 years, after which they can apply again.

4. Gordon C. Oates Air Breathing Propulsion Graduate Award.

This program was instituted in 1985 by the Air Breathing Propulsion Technical Committee in honor of Gordon C. Oates. Eligible applicants will be participating in research endeavors in Air Breathing Propulsion as part of their graduate studies. Official recognition and presentation of the check to the recipient will be made in conjunction with the Awards Presentation Ceremony at the AIAA/SAE/ASME/ASEE Joint Propulsion Conference. In addition, the AIAA Foundation will present the recipient with a special recognition plaque in honor of this award.

5. The William T. Piper, Sr. Graduate Award in General Aviation Systems

Funding for this award is provided by endowment gifts from the Piper Aircraft Corporation and the W.T. Piper, Sr. Foundation, in the name of William T. Piper, Sr. combined with support from the General Aviation Systems Technical Committee and the AIAA Foundation. Eligible applicants will be actively participating in research endeavors in General Aviation as part of their graduate studies. Official recognition will be made in conjunction with the Awards Presentations Ceremony at the AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting. In addition, the AIAA Foundation will present the recipient with a special recognition plaque in honor of this award.

6. Open Topic Graduate Award

In order to allow for the greatest possible flexibility in research, the AIAA Foundation has made available up to four (4) "non-designated" graduate awards. Eligible applicants must be actively participating in research endeavors in one of the more than 65 specialty areas represented by AIAA Technical Committees. (Be sure to indicate on the application your chosen area of specialization.) Official recognition and presentation of the check to the recipient will be made in conjunction with the Awards Presentations Ceremony at the AIAA Aerospace Sciences Meeting. In addition, the AIAA Foundation will present the recipient with a special recognition plaque in honor of this award.