

EcoSS Travel and Research Awards Program (TRAP) Fall 2019 Request for Proposals

The EcoSS Travel and Research Awards Program (TRAP) now includes two distinct categories: travel and research. Travel awards are designed to advance the applicant's professional development by enabling activities such as attending a scientific meeting, visiting a lab for specialized training, collaborating on proposal development, or traveling to a research site. Research awards are designed to advance the applicant's professional development by providing support to conduct an experiment that was not planned, or to obtain equipment, supplies, software, or analyses that enable innovative research that would not otherwise happen.

The TRAP is open to EcoSS graduate students, postdocs, staff, and research faculty. Priority will be given to requests for which support has not already been identified. Travel and research proposals will be evaluated independently.

Successful travel proposals should not exceed two pages and must include the following information:

- 1.) **Proposed travel:** A description of the proposed travel including event name, location, and dates.
- 2.) **Motivation:** How this travel will advance your research and/or serve your professional development.
- 3.) **Budget:** An itemized estimated budget including transportation, lodging, food costs (M&IE), and, if applicable, registration and costs associated with presentations (e.g. poster printing).
- 4.) **Need:** Why is this award necessary to fund your travel? What other funding sources have you explored and/or secured? If your proposed budget exceeds the maximum request, please identify other funding sources you are pursuing.
- 5.) **Previous TRAP funding:** If you have received TRAP support previously, explain when and for what purpose.

Successful research proposals should not exceed two pages and will clearly explain:

- 1.) **Proposed research:** A description of your new research activity and scope.
- 2.) **Innovation:** An explanation of the novelty of the research for which you seek funding: What question(s) does it seek to answer, and why this angle of approach? Will this award enhance EcoSS research capacity? If so, please describe.
- 3.) **Budget:** An itemized estimated budget including equipment, supplies, and any other feature of the research the applicant seeks support for.
- 4.) **Need:** A brief statement explaining how the proposed activity will promote your personal research program and career development, and why this research would not be possible without this support. If you have explored or secured other funding sources, please explain.
- 5.) **Previous TRAP funding:** If you have received TRAP support previously, explain when and for what purpose.

Deliverables: All TRAP awardees (both travel and research) will be required to report on the results of their awards in two ways:

1.) A brief write-up (300-500 words) that explains in non-technical terms the outcome of the funded travel or research activity. These narratives will be featured on the Ecosystem website and serve as examples for future applicants to the TRAP program.

2.) A short presentation (~5 min) at the Ecosystem weekly seminar within the year following receipt of a TRAP award.

Eligibility requirements: All Ecosystem graduate students, postdocs, staff, and research faculty are eligible. Priority will be given to applicants who have not received a TRAP award in the previous two year period. Requested travel must occur within a year following the application submission, otherwise, the award will return to the pool and a new application must be submitted. The maximum request is \$2000, though awards less than the requested amount may be offered at the committee's discretion.

An individual may apply to only one category (travel or research) per grant cycle.

The deadline for fall applications is October 31 at 11:59pm.

Please email complete proposals and any questions to EcosystemTRAP@nau.edu. The next award period following this round of submissions will occur in April.

Information about TRAP is also available at ecosystem.nau.edu/TRAP/.