



American Meat Science Association UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLASTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

OBJECTIVE

To promote meat science by recognizing outstanding undergraduate students with potential for a career in meats. The candidate may or may not have committed himself/herself to a career in meats but should have demonstrated an interest in meat science and the meat industry. Students majoring in Animal Science, Food Science and closely allied fields of study are encouraged to apply.

ELIGIBILITY

Students from four-year institutions may apply. The student must be an AMSA member that is a junior, senior or have graduated not more than eight months prior to the RMC at the time of application. The AMSA Undergraduate Scholarship Award committee will evaluate a student's credentials according to procedures described below. Previous award winners are not eligible to receive another award.

NATURE OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Students must attend the RMC to receive their scholarships. Each scholarship shall consist of a check for \$200.00 and a suitably engraved plaque to be presented to the winners at RMC. The RMC registration fee will be waived for each scholarship winner.

PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS AT RMC

Recipients of scholarships will participate in the same activities as graduate students. They should be introduced to conference participants early in the week and will be encouraged to attend the scientific sessions and meet as many AMSA members as possible.

NOMINATION FORMAT

Students can submit the applications, and a faculty member (or advisor) will confirm the student's application by completing a verification form of the application. **All applications must be verified by a faculty member or will result in disqualification for the award.** AMSA Staff will send the verification form to the faculty member to confirm their support.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. Scholarship (35 points possible)

Grade point average must include all college work. Divide student's grade point average by 4.0 and multiply this by 35. Adjust student's grade point average, as shown in the example, if the school uses a 5.0 grading system.

Example: Student A has GPA = 3.5/4.0 system

$$\frac{3.5}{4.0} = .875; .875 \times 35 = 30.625 \text{ points}$$

Example: Student B has GPA = 4.5/5.0 system

$$\frac{4.5-1}{5.0-1} = \frac{3.5}{4.0} = .875 \times 35 = 30.625 \text{ points}$$

2. Letter and resume from student (20 points possible)

- a. The student shall write a letter describing his/her interest in meat science, possible career choice, and their expectations from attending the RMC. (15 points max.) Points awarded by AMSA Scholastic Award committee members will reflect the candidate's written communication skills.
- b. The student shall write a one-page resume. (5 points max.) Points awarded by the committee will be based on an evaluation of the resume as tailored to accompany a job application in the meat/food industry.

3. Meat Science Activities (35 points possible)

- a. Participate in an AMSA hosted/facilitated Youth Program competitive events (i.e. meat judging, quiz bowl, research competition, iron chef, intercollegiate bbq contest, etc.)(6 points max.).
- b. Participation in AMSA/Meat Industry education and events. Participation in and/or attendance at student leaders connecting conference (SLC), student training and education programs (STEP) and professional meetings, trade conventions, industry/short courses, extension meetings, etc. Include statements of duties and/or what was gained from the experience. (4 points max.)
- c. Meat/muscle biology lab employee/volunteer/leadership role. Includes processing and/or meat/food quality control, HACCP record management, short course assistance, chemistry, microbiology or research laboratory experience. Must include a statement of length of employment/service and what was gained from the experience. (6 points max.)
- d. Employment/internship/co-op in commercial meat processing and/or allied industry. Include a statement of length of employment and what was gained from the work experience. Employment should be completed or in progress at the time the application is submitted. (9 points max.)
- e. Teaching assistant experience in meat science. Must include a statement to indicate scope and depth of assistance. This should include course titles, numbers and types of lectures/labs, and/or extension courses taught. Also tell what knowledge/skills were gained from the experience. (4 points max.)

- f. Undergraduate research project in meat/food science.
Student involvement in meat/food science research projects. A statement of objective, methods and a brief summary of results should be included. Project ownership should be explained to determine the level of involvement and ultimate responsibilities of the student. Clearly define the student's role and what was accomplished to reach the objective of the research project. (6 points max.)

4. Other Activities (10 points possible)

- a. Elected officer and/or appointed committee chair positions in student agricultural clubs/organizations.
- b. Elected and/or appointed officer in other university clubs, government and/or honoraries.
- c. Miscellaneous Activities: Membership/participation in miscellaneous campus groups/activities i.e. ag. teams, residence group, dorm, fraternity, sorority and/or off-campus activities i.e. athletics, clubs, organizations and associations.
- d. Involvement in other agricultural organizations such as 4-H, FFA, MANNRS, etc. Only activities during an undergraduate career should be included.

SCORING

Nominated students will be assigned points by each Undergraduate Scholastic Award committee member. After points are assigned, each member will rank students.

Nominating faculty and students will be notified in mid-April 2025.

SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS

Email the nomination packet as one PDF file titled (Name of Nominee_USAA) to information@meatscience.org by **February 27, 2025**. The faculty member or advisor that will be verifying the application should be included on the email so they can review the submitted application. Email confirmations will be sent to verify applications have been received.

1. Cover Letter
2. Resume
3. Completed AMSA Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement Award Form (providing all information listed in Selection Criteria.
4. Student's unofficial transcript of all undergraduate work.

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