

## American Meat Science Association AMSA Development Council Scholarship and Student Grant Application

AMSA Scholarship Programs encourage and support graduate and undergraduate education and research in meat science and muscle biology.

### **Policies & Requirements**

Unless specified in the award descriptions below, the following apply to all student grant and scholarship programs of AMSA.

1. AMSA student members from accredited colleges and universities are eligible.
2. Age, gender, race, religion or national origin are not conditions of eligibility for any AMSA scholarship award.
3. A minimum GPA of 2.5/4.0 is required for consideration.
4. Prior recipients of any grant or scholarship are not eligible for that same award in a subsequent year.
5. Students may be enrolled as undergraduates or graduate students, or have graduated not more than four months prior to the application deadline.
6. The AMSA Scholarship Committees evaluates all applications and makes the final decision on all awards.
7. Incomplete applications and applications in which the grades have not been converted to the A=4.0 system will be disqualified. Applications received after the deadline will be disqualified.

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## **2021 Program Information**

### **Robert Cassens Scholar Award**

Sponsored by the AMSA Development Council Robert Cassens Mentor Recognition Fund

#### **Objective**

Dr. Robert Cassens was a long-time AMSA member and a leader in the meat science community during his distinguished career at the University of Wisconsin. The Robert Cassens Mentor Scholar Award is a non-tuition scholarship intended to: 1) support the efforts of PhD-level graduate students in completing research or communicating their research results at national or international conferences like RMC or ICoMST, and/or: 2) to travel domestically/internationally to do collaborative meat science research or access equipment/techniques unavailable on their campus. The overall goal is to advance PhD student research and assist in establishing contacts important to their career.

#### **Eligibility**

Interested students who are members or are becoming members of AMSA are encouraged to apply. Competitive applicants will be PhD students who have: (1) completed at least two years of graduate study, an M.S. degree, or its equivalent on research using fundamental approaches to advance the biochemical understanding of muscle, fresh and/or processed meats, and (2) are advancing their research agenda beyond their home campus, or who are presenting their research at a national or international meeting.

#### **Nature of the award**

One award will be presented in 2021. The award consists of a cash payment of \$1600. The recipient will also be required to provide a follow-up report that details how the funds were used and details their experiences.

## **The Hunter International Travel Award**

Sponsored by the AMSA Development Council Melvin Hunt Mentor Recognition Fund

### **Objective**

Dr. Melvin “Hunter” Hunt was a long-time AMSA member and a leader in the meat science community during his distinguished career at Kansas State University. Hunter’s reputation as a top meat color research is well-known throughout the world and his service to the meat industry spans a career of teaching, mentoring and research. He is the primary author of the first version of the *Guidelines for Meat Color*. The Hunter International Travel Award is a non-tuition scholarship intended to support the efforts of meat science graduate students in communicating their research results at international meetings like ICoMST or other similar researched-based conferences.

### **Eligibility**

Interested students who are members or are becoming members of AMSA are encouraged to apply. Competitive applicants will be M.S. or Ph.D. students who have: (1) completed at least one year of graduate study in a MS program or two years of a PhD program on research using fundamental approaches to advance the biochemical understanding of muscle, fresh and/or processed meats, and (2) are presenting their research at an international meeting.

### **Nature of the award**

One award will be presented in 2021. The award consists of a cash payment of \$2400. The recipient will be required to provide a follow-up report that details how the funds were used and details their experiences.

## **Kinsman International Award**

Sponsored by the AMSA Development Council Donald Kinsman Fund

### **Objective**

Dr. Donald M. Kinsman was a long-time AMSA member whose work in meat science research and commitment to international opportunities for students set him apart from his peers. The objective of this program is to honor the memory and achievements of Dr. Kinsman and promote international collaboration by recognizing an outstanding student member with a financial award in support of international travel.

### **Eligibility**

Interested students who are members or are becoming members of AMSA are encouraged to apply. Eligible students must present verification of their plan to travel internationally with primary intent toward meat science education. Appropriate international activities involve the international travel of a student for the primary purpose of meat science education. (Examples include: study, research, or internship opportunities, as well as attendance at meetings that are international for the student, such as ICoMST or RMC, for the purpose of presenting their research findings.)

In recognition of Dr. Kinsman's distinguished service in the armed forces, special consideration is given to applicants with military service records.

### **Nature of the award**

One award will be presented in 2021. The award consists of a cash payment of \$1300. The recipient will also be required to provide a follow-up report that details how the funds were used and details their experiences.

## **C. Boyd Ramsey RMC Scholar Award**

Sponsored by the AMSA Development Council C. Boyd Ramsey Mentor Recognition Fund and the AMSA Student Membership

### **Objective**

Dr. C. Boyd Ramsey, Professor Emeritus of Texas Tech University, has a strong reputation for his rigor as a teacher and his precision as a scientist. He was a mentor and teacher to over 5,000 students in Animal and Meat Science courses during his time at the University of Tennessee and Texas Tech University. This legacy led to the establishment of the C. Boyd Ramsey Mentor Recognition fund which was fully funded in 2014 and allocated to help students attend the RMC.

### **Eligibility**

Interested students who are members or are becoming members of AMSA are encouraged to apply. Eligible students must meet all eligibility requirements contained herein and be a current student or entering student at an accredited college or university. Award winners must also attend the 2021 RMC to receive the award.

Special consideration will be given to applicants attending their first RMC.

### **Nature of the award**

Four undergraduate and two graduate student awards will be presented in 2021. The award consists of a cash payment of \$550. The recipients will also be required to provide a follow-up report that details how the funds were used and details their experiences.

## **Robert Rust Award**

Sponsored by the AMSA Development Council Robert Rust Mentor Recognition Fund

### **Objective**

Professor Robert Rust, now an emeritus professor at Iowa State, has been an innovating extension meat specialist. He created technology short courses that were the first university classes offered to the meat processing industry. These became the longest-running series of meat short courses in the United States. He is internationally recognized as a leading authority in meat processing and has contributed to the advancement of meat science through teaching extension, research, and service. The Robert Rust Award is a scholarship intended to support the efforts of meat science students who are interested in processed meats

### **Eligibility**

Interested students who are members or are becoming members of AMSA are encouraged to apply. Competitive applicants should be sophomore or junior level students who have proven interest in processed meats. Applicants' Statement of Interest must state interest in meat processing, and provide evidence of that interest in the form of: employment or internships in further processing, course work relating to meat processing or food processing in general (food microbiology, food engineering, etc.), participating in meat processing short courses, conferences or industry trade shows, etc.

### **Nature of the award**

One award will be presented in 2021. The award consists of a cash payment of \$1550. The recipient will be required to provide a follow-up report that details how the funds were used and details their experiences.

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## Information for Applicant

### Application Deadlines

- Application information must be submitted as emailed file attachments to the following address by Monday, April 19 by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time. All applications must be typed in English.  
[Scholarships@meatscience.org](mailto:Scholarships@meatscience.org)

### Application Documents

The application should be submitted as a single electronic PDF document and should include the following items:

1. Cover sheet to include:
  - a. Applicant's name, year in college and date of graduation
  - b. Applicant and academic advisor contact information
  - c. International contact information. (If applicable)
2. Cover letter
3. Resumé
4. Unofficial transcripts
5. List of meat science activities
6. List of other activities
7. Completed Application Form

### Selection Criteria

- 1) **Statement of Interest** (approximately 20 percent)
  - a) Cover Letter: The student shall write a cover letter describing his/her interest in meat science, possible career choice, and the purpose for applying for the scholarship(s). This should include details regarding need of financial support, reasons for attending the conference, etc. If applying for the Kinsman, include a description of the international travel plan (destination, proposed itinerary, educational objective, and status of current funding) and personal and professional expectation from the specific international travel experience. If applying for the Rust Award, state interest in meat processing.
  - b) Resumé: The student shall write a one-page resumé. The resumé will be evaluated on the basis of its suitability to accompany a job application in the meat and food industry.
- 2) **Scholarship** (approximately 20 percent). Student's unofficial transcript of all undergraduate and graduate work must accompany the application. If the reported GPA is not in the A=4.0 system, a separate sheet must be attached with GPA converted to the A=4.0 system.
- 3) **Meat science activities** (approximately 35 percent). Meat science activities should be listed on a separate page. Examples include the following:
  - Member or coach of an intercollegiate meat judging team, or participation in other meat judging activities or other competitive educational programs in meat science, i.e. contestant in department or regional contest, quiz bowl, product development competition, etc.

- Work in university meat science/muscle biology lab. Includes processing, quality control, chemistry, microbiology or research laboratory experience. Must include a statement of length of employment/service and what was gained from the experience.
  - 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.
  - Teaching experience in meat science. Must include a statement to indicate scope and depth of assistance (course titles, numbers and types of lectures/labs, extension courses taught). Describe what knowledge and skills were gained from the experience.
  - Research problem in meat science. Student should be involved in the project design and have the major responsibility for carrying it out. Include an abstract-style statement of objective, methods and results. Research must be completed before graduation.
  - Participation in Meat Science. Participation in professional meetings, trade conventions, industry short courses, extension meetings, etc. Include statements of duties and/or what was gained from the experience
- 4) **Other relevant activities** (approximately 25 percent). Other activities should be listed on a separate page. Examples include the following:
- Elected officer/appointed committee chair positions in student agricultural organizations.
  - Elected/appointed officer in other university clubs, government and honoraries.
  - Military service, including Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service Commission Corps, and their reserve components. Training or service in the National Guard or Air National Guard. Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC).
  - Miscellaneous Activities: Participation in miscellaneous campus activities such as ag. teams, residence group, dorm, fraternity, sorority and off-campus activities like athletics, clubs, organizations and associations.

For the 2021 awards, all scholarship applications are due on Monday, April 19 at 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time. Applications must be submitted as emailed file attachments to the address below.

Scholarship Application Submission Email Address:

[scholarships@meatscience.org](mailto:scholarships@meatscience.org)

If you have questions or need additional information on the program, please contact AMSA Staff ([information@meatscience.org](mailto:information@meatscience.org))

**APPLICATION FORM**

This completed application, along with all other necessary materials, should be submitted as one PDF document titled with your full name and emailed to [Scholarships@meatscience.org](mailto:Scholarships@meatscience.org). **Incomplete applications and late submittals will be cause for disqualification from consideration.**

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**Please Type**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

College/University Name \_\_\_\_\_

Department/Major \_\_\_\_\_

Class rank: Freshman \_\_\_\_\_ Soph. \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate Student: Masters or Doctoral (circle one)

Scholarships Applying to: Cassens \_\_\_\_\_ Hunter \_\_\_\_\_ Kinsman \_\_\_\_\_ Ramsey RMC \_\_\_\_\_ Rust \_\_\_\_\_

Expected graduation date \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor/Faculty Member \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (faculty) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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I hereby certify that all information provided in this application is true and correct. I further agree that if I withdraw from school or do not continue with plans to attend event applied for that the unused balance is forfeitable to AMSA, and shall so notify AMSA within thirty days.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_