



Applying for Scholarships

Sponsored by

The Spitzer Science Center • The JPL Navigator Center for Astronomy Education • The Planck Mission
The Education Office of the American Astronomical Society • California Space Grant

UP TO \$800 PER PERSON AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFIED MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Who is Eligible for a Scholarship?

Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, we are able to offer a limited number of scholarships to 3 categories of attendees (who are U.S. citizens):

1. Instructors of astronomy in community colleges (who send certification that they are teaching astronomy currently and that they are not able to obtain travel funds from their own institutions).
2. Instructors of introductory astronomy at 4-year colleges and universities that do not have significant programs in astronomical research (who send certification that they are teaching astronomy currently and that they are not able to obtain travel funds from their own institutions).
3. Graduate students or post-docs who are going into positions next year that require teaching introductory astronomy (who send certification that they are not able to obtain travel funds from their own institutions.)

Some priority will be given to those who teach in institutions that have significant enrollments of underserved minorities. Please mention such enrollments in your application.

NOTE: All scholarship applicants will be expected to stay in the (air conditioned) dormitories on campus. If you require an exception for health or other significant reasons, you must write a separate note explaining why. All housing costs above the price of dormitory residence must be paid for by the participant.

We expect more applications than we have funding, so please continue trying to find other funding even if you are applying for a scholarship. (For example, in past years, state NASA Space Grant offices have occasionally funded an instructor from their states to attend.)

We apologize, but high school teachers, planetarium educators, or graduate students still years away from earning their final degree, while very welcome at the meeting, are not eligible for scholarships.

Scholarships will be given after the meeting as reimbursement for document expenses incurred. If there is a really serious hardship issue, please contact us at the e-mail below.

How Do I Apply for a Scholarship?

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and must submit three different items (each one takes only a few minutes):

1. An application form with basic information
[print this form and fill it out; be sure you give us an estimate of your expenses, since this will determine the size of your scholarship]
2. A one-page letter explaining how attending the meeting will benefit you, your institution, and your students. (No special form or letterhead is required.) Explain a bit about your teaching, the kinds of courses and students you have, what you hope to change or improve. Be sure you include your name and the institution(s) at which you teach.
3. A form signed by your supervisor (department chair or dean) certifying that you teach astronomy and that your institution is not able to find other travel funding for you.
[print this form, fill it out, and have your supervisor sign it]

All 3 sheets must be sent together, by mail, to:

**Cosmos Scholarships
Astronomical Society of the Pacific
390 Ashton Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94112**

How Will It Work After I Apply?

1. Applications will be read by a special committee set up at the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. (The amount of money you request will play no role in the decision.)
2. All applicants will be notified by e-mail as soon as possible. Your award notification will include the maximum amount of money you can ask for.
3. Keep good receipts for all approved expenses. This can include registration, air fare, shuttle buses, residence hall costs, on-campus meals, etc.
4. Promptly send a list of your approved expenses with original receipts to the ASP at the above address. All requests for reimbursement must reach us by September 15. Be sure to include your name and full mailing address. You will receive a reimbursement for the amount you spent.

Any questions? Please direct them to: cosmos@astrosociety.org