
MONTANA INSTRUMENTS COLD SCIENCE EXPLORATION AWARDS

Terms & Conditions

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CATEGORIES & ELIGIBILITY

In an effort to advance the field of low temperature research, Montana Instruments ("MI") presents the Montana Instruments Cold Science Exploration Awards. These awards will be presented to individuals who demonstrate significant potential with their low temperature research applications. Two categories of awards will be offered:

Lab Startup Grant

- Grant Amount: \$500 (Bronze), \$1000(Silver), \$2500(Gold), \$5000(Platinum)
- Grant Form: Award must be used towards the purchase of a Montana Instruments system*

Student Travel Grant

- Grant Amount: \$500
- Grant Form: Award must be used towards qualified travel expenses for an approved conference and will be paid as a reimbursement**
- Grants Available: Up to 10 per year

Program Eligibility

- Applicant's research focus must be in low temperature applications, preferably in the 1 Kelvin to 100 Kelvin temperature range.
- Applicants must be 18 years or older at the time of submission.
- You do not need to be a current Montana Instruments product user to be considered.
- Lab Startup Grant: Graduating students, post-docs, research scientists, principle investigators or lab managers who either 1) started or moved to a new lab within the last 12 months or 2) will be starting or moving to a new lab within the next 12 months.
- Student Travel Grant: Current graduate students enrolled and conducting research at a college, university, or national lab who will be presenting a paper at a reputable conference.
 - You must be the presenter of the paper and acknowledge Montana Instruments as a partial sponsor of the presentation.

HOW TO APPLY

Nomination Process

- Nominations for the award are encouraged. A simple nomination form is required (<https://form.jotform.us/Montanainstruments/CSEA-nomination>)
- Nominations will go directly to MI; we will then contact the nominee directly and invite them to apply.
 - Nominees will be notified via email of a nomination and asked to complete and submit a personal application in order to be considered for the award.
- Nominations will be accepted from any member of the scientific community – you do not need to be the nominee's advisor to submit.
- Nominations are not required. Applicants can apply without a prior nomination.

- Those without prior nominations will be required to have a research associate, advisor, or university representative endorse their application.
- Nominees and applicants are not guaranteed an award.

Application Process

- Apply online at <https://form.jotform.us/MontanaInstruments/CSEA-application> and complete the application in its entirety.
- Requested information includes, but is not limited to: contact information, research background, research goals, relevant papers/abstracts, cryogenic needs, and plan for using the grant.
- Student Travel Grant applicants must apply at least 6 weeks prior to the date of the intended conference.
- Applicants can only apply once per calendar year. Previous winners are not eligible to apply again in the same category.

WINNING AN AWARD

Award recipients will be decided at the sole discretion of MI and its affiliates. Applications will be evaluated as they are submitted, and grants will be awarded on a case by case basis while the program is considered active. A decision will be made within 4 weeks of the date of submission. MI reserves the right to terminate the program at any time.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated on a number of different criteria, including, but not limited to, the following (no specific weight has been assigned to any of these attributes):

- Technical/scientific merit of research
- Use of innovative/novel approach and techniques
- Nomination/endorsement information from peers

OTHER RULES

- Award recipients agree to be featured by MI when publicizing the award. This may include posting information such as your name, university affiliation, research application, and published work or requesting photographs, written and verbal statements, and video interviews.
- No purchase is necessary to apply for or receive an award.
- Eligibility extends only to labs and shows in the United States and Canada.
- By submitting an application or nomination, you agree that MI may contact you about MI products and services.
- MI is not responsible for any federal, state or local taxes or tax-reporting obligations or any academic financial restrictions that arise in connection with any award.
- Awards must be used within 12 months of award notice.

*The grant amount will be only applied as a discount to a final signed purchase order for a full system with Montana Instruments; the grant is non-negotiable and has no alternative cash value. If the grant amount exceeds the total purchase cost, no reimbursements or cash will be issued for the difference.

**Qualified travel expenses must be personal expenses incurred directly by and for the award recipient for transportation, hotel/accommodations, meals, conference or event registration, and/or presentation materials. Grant amount will be presented as a reimbursement upon receipt of a completed reimbursement request form (due within 8 weeks after the conference).