

Please note the following key dates:

Hudson River Research Grant
Preproposals due:
Monday, November 7, 2016

Notification that a Hudson River
Research Grant Full Proposal is
being requested:
Thursday, December 8, 2016

Hudson River Research Grant
Full Proposals due:
Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Tibor T. Polgar Fellowship
Applications due:
Monday, February 13, 2017

Mark B. Bain Graduate
Fellowship Applications due:
Monday, March 13, 2017

HUDSON RIVER FOUNDATION

FOR SCIENCE AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
RESEARCH

Hudson River Fund: Call for Proposals 2017

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THE HUDSON RIVER FUND 2017 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Hudson River Foundation's program of scientific and related public policy research for the 2017 grant cycle of the Hudson River Fund is presented in this Call for Proposals to the Fund. The priorities for research grant awards are set forth in seven key interest areas:

- *Restoring the signature fisheries of the Hudson River to their full potential*
- *Restoring and improving habitats within the Hudson River Estuary*
- *Understanding the watershed (drainage basin) and its influence on the Hudson River*
- *Evaluating climate change impacts and implications*
- *Understanding human uses and interactions*
- *Understanding emerging and existing contaminants*
- *Evaluating ecosystem services*

The particular significance of each of these areas to the mission and goals of the Foundation is elaborated below (pages 5–8), along with specific current research needs that have been identified for the Hudson River Fund.

THE HUDSON RIVER FOUNDATION

The Hudson River Foundation supports scientific and public policy research, education, and projects to enhance public access to the Hudson River. The Foundation was established in 1981 under the terms of an agreement among environmental groups, government regulatory agencies and utility companies seeking the constructive resolution of a long series of legal controversies concerning the environmental impacts of power plants on the Hudson River.

The Foundation's principal funding source is the **Hudson River Fund**, which was created in recognition of the critical need for an independent institution to sponsor scientific research programs that would contribute to the development of sound public policy concerning the River's ecological system. The Hudson River Fund was initially established with \$12 million in 1982. Since then the Fund, which has more than tripled in value, has enabled the Foundation to award over 800 grants and fellowships totaling approximately \$40 million to date.

In 1985 New York State provided \$1.5 million to the Hudson River Foundation to establish the **Hudson River Improvement Fund** to support projects to enhance public use and enjoyment of the River's natural, scenic and cultural resources. The emphasis of the Improvement Fund is on physical projects requiring capital construction, development, or improvement. Approximately 850 grants, totaling \$7 million, have been awarded from the Improvement Fund since its inception. The funding priorities have included support for parkland on the River, docks and shoreline projects enhancing public access, riverfront facilities dedicated to Hudson River education, and restoration and preservation of Hudson River lighthouses. *Additional information about the Hudson River Improvement Fund and application guidelines for its grant cycles can be obtained from the Foundation.*

In 1994 the Foundation established a third fund, the **New York City Environmental Fund** (NYCEF), whose purpose is to foster "restoration, care, public enjoyment of, and education about New York City's natural resources." An initial fund of \$5 million was provided by the Consolidated Edison Company under the terms of an agreement between Consolidated Edison and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Subsequently, over \$3 million has been added to the fund through agreements between DEC and the City of New York. To date, the Foundation has awarded more than 900 grants, totaling \$11.1 million, from NYCEF and related funds dedicated to projects in the Newtown Creek area and West Harlem neighborhoods near the North River Sewage Treatment Plant, to environmental and community groups in New York City and Westchester County. *Additional information about this Fund and its grants program can be obtained from the Foundation.*

In 2013 the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) selected the Foundation to manage the **New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program (HEP)** as part of the Foundation's overall mission and programs. One of 28 National Estuary Programs established under the 1987 Clean Water Act to identify, restore, and protect nationally significant estuaries of the United States, HEP has been an integral part of the Foundation's work for over 25 years. Working closely with EPA and HEP partners on many collaborative endeavors, the Foundation uses the goals and objectives contained in HEP's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) and Action Plans as a guide for identifying scientific research questions that will inform and support policy and management actions. The integration of HEP programs within the Foundation enhances the capacity of the Foundation to bring public and private stakeholders together to develop and implement actions that improve the health of the Hudson River Estuary.

THE HUDSON RIVER FUND

BACKGROUND

Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement that established it, the Hudson River Fund is dedicated to supporting

“scientific, ecological, and related public policy research on issues and matters of concern to the Hudson River, its tributaries and its drainage basin, with emphasis given, but not limited to, mitigating fishery impacts caused by power plants, providing information needed to manage the fishery resources of the Hudson River, understanding the factors related to the abundance and structure of fish populations, and gaining knowledge of the Hudson River ecosystem.”

The Hudson River Fund supports scientific research on all aspects of the Hudson River ecosystem, with emphasis on studies that bear on human uses of the system. Since utilization of fishery resources and other human uses have been dominant issues in the estuarine portion of the River (New York Harbor to the Troy Dam), the Foundation devotes particular attention to this part of the Hudson River ecosystem. However, the Foundation will consider proposals related to

any part of the watershed or nearby coastal areas. Such areas are defined as those that either serve as seasonal habitats for biota of the Hudson River Estuary or influence the physical, chemical, or biological characteristics of the Estuary in other ways.

Although the central purpose of the Hudson River Fund is to sponsor research in the natural sciences and public policy, the Foundation also assists in the coordination of research concerning the Hudson River ecosystem and promotes efforts leading to improved management policies. The Foundation seeks to advance understanding of the issues affecting the River by supporting the dissemination of information gained both through Foundation-funded research programs and through other sources. The Foundation sponsors workshops and conferences, bringing together authorities working within the Hudson River Valley and elsewhere to discuss scientific and public policy issues. Reports from these meetings give direction for further scientific work and improve the information used as a basis for public policy decisions.

THE ROLE OF THE FOUNDATION IN HUDSON RIVER SCIENCE: PRIORITIES FOR THE HUDSON RIVER FUND 2017 GRANT CYCLE

The Foundation seeks to elucidate the dynamic interactions among the physical, chemical, and biological processes that are important to the Hudson River ecosystem. In particular, the Foundation encourages research in areas that are both scientifically important and relevant to current or anticipated public policy and resource management issues affecting the River and its watershed. Recognizing that both basic and applied research are fundamental to the management of Hudson River resources, the Foundation places special emphasis on research that has clearly articulated significance for policy issues identified in the management programs described below and is conducted in the context of other ongoing research and monitoring in the River and its watershed.

Through the New York-New Jersey Harbor & Estuary Program (HEP) (<http://www.harborestuary.org/actionplan.htm>), as well as in its collaboration with other Hudson River and Harbor resource management programs, including the New York State Hudson River Estuary Program (<http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/4920.html>), and the Comprehensive Restoration Plan for the lower Estuary (<http://www.harborestuary.org/watersweshare/>), the Foundation reviews regularly the overall status of scientific understanding of the Hudson and identifies both broad areas of research and particular scientific questions that merit attention both immediately and over the next five to ten years. The Foundation continues to believe that funding a portfolio of projects, including basic research along with studies that address both immediate and emerging environmental policy issues, is important to, and eagerly sought by, both the research community and the government agencies with Hudson River management responsibilities.

The Foundation has identified **seven areas of interest** that require expanded scientific examination over the next several years. **These areas, highlighted below, formed the basis of the Foundation's two most recent grant cycles, and will guide the program of the Hudson River Fund in its 2017 Hudson River Fund grants. Specific elements of these areas, however, have been augmented and elaborated this year** in light of updates to management program agendas and new scientific information generated since the Foundation's previous grant cycle. In the 2017 cycle, the Foundation is seeking proposals for research in the following areas:

- ***Restoring the signature fisheries of the Hudson River to their full potential.*** The status of the Hudson River's most important anadromous and catadromous fish species is mixed, with several (e.g., American shad, American eel and sturgeons) in marked decline in recent years. Better scientific information is necessary to understand the factors controlling the abundance of these fish and to apply this knowledge to their management. The Foundation is therefore interested in supporting research that will inform the conservation, protection and rebuilding of these stocks of fish.

A particular issue related to sturgeons has come to light this year. Through past research supported by the Foundation and others, it was discovered that an important Atlantic sturgeon spawning ground in the mid-Hudson overlaps with a designated anchorage area for vessels moving between New York City and Albany. Most recently, the bottom habitat in that anchorage area has been found to be disrupted by the dragging of anchors from large vessels, tugs and barges. Other anchorages throughout the Hudson River now

being proposed may be associated with habitats used by both Atlantic and shortnose sturgeon. Although the Hudson River is one of the most studied rivers in the world regarding sturgeon, these new developments have highlighted the void in the understanding of certain aspects of sturgeon ecology that hinder resource managers' ability to draw confident conclusions about the potential impacts to these fish caused by physical disruptions of bottom habitats. It would therefore be extremely useful to have greater understandings of the utilization of River habitats by various life stages of sturgeon, so that more informed decisions can be made to address any potential effects of physical disruptions. The Foundation is interested in adding to this base of knowledge and integrating its work with Hudson River and coastal fisheries managers, including the New York State Hudson River Estuary Management Program, which has set fisheries restoration as a fundamental goal.

- ***Restoring and improving habitats within the Hudson River Estuary.*** Massive alteration of habitats sets the Hudson River and its watershed apart from many other regions. The Comprehensive Restoration Plan (CRP), based on the scientific framework developed at the Foundation and tracked by HEP's Restoration Work Group, provides an important set of habitat restoration goals for the lower estuary. The Foundation seeks scientific information to support and guide implementation of habitat restoration, including oyster reefs, in shallow water, and along urban shorelines.
- ***Understanding the watershed (drainage basin) and its influence on the Hudson River.*** The Foundation recognizes the importance of tributaries as components of the Hudson River watershed and seeks to provide scientific input into the planning and implementation of programs to protect, maintain and/or restore them. Tropical Storms Irene and Lee demonstrated how sub-watersheds can be altered through flooding and erosion, greatly affecting the larger Hudson watershed and the River. Gaining a fuller understanding of these effects is of particular interest to the Foundation.
- ***Evaluating climate change impacts and implications.*** The Foundation seeks to develop new scientific understandings of the impacts and implications of climate change in the Hudson River and its watershed. The Foundation is especially interested in advancing research that assesses possible alterations to processes and components of the Hudson ecosystem in light of updated projections of air and water temperatures, new precipitation patterns, extreme weather events, and sea level rise for the region. Potentially affected processes and components include acidification, eutrophication, harmful algal blooms, habitat loss, and species migration, including invasive species that may expand their geographical distribution.
- ***Understanding human uses and interactions.*** The Hudson River is situated in the most densely populated region in the United States. Understanding how human uses have affected and continue to affect the Hudson ecosystem, and sharing that knowledge with resource managers, restoration practitioners, policy makers, and stewards of the Hudson River and its watershed, is fundamental to the Foundation's mission. While the Foundation seeks to advance understanding of the effects of many human uses of the River, it has a particular interest in informing decisions that will be made in the future

regarding the modification of shorelines in response to extreme events, sea level rise, ecosystem restoration, waterfront revitalization and infrastructure maintenance. The Foundation therefore seeks research that will contribute to a strong scientific understanding of options and potential outcomes of proposed efforts to enhance and restore shorelines and nearshore areas. In particular, the Foundation seeks better understanding of the ecological functioning of existing and potentially enhanced urban shorelines and nearshore habitats, their value relative to nearby habitats, and the physical, geological, chemical, and other factors that are likely to affect the character of those habitats into the future.

- ***Understanding emerging and existing contaminants.*** The discharge of persistent toxic materials into the Hudson River has left a legacy of contamination that is expected to cause long-term environmental problems. The Foundation seeks to develop greater scientific understandings of the behavior and environmental impact of these contaminants in order to inform policies aimed at protecting both the people and other biota living in the Hudson River ecosystem. The Foundation is also interested in developing better understandings of the consequences of emerging contaminants of concern, including pharmaceuticals and plastic products, being discharged into the Hudson River Ecosystem. The Foundation seeks research proposals to better understand how these introductions may be affecting human health and the aquatic biota, and how the contaminants may be transformed and transported within the ecosystem. In addition, the Foundation is interested in gaining new insights about microbial contaminants related to the discharge of treated and untreated sewage. Of particular interest is the acquisition of new scientific information about the processes that govern the transport and persistence of pathogenic bacteria in nearshore areas that are increasingly being used by the public. Such information could benefit the siting and operation of new waterfront access areas, provide information to recreational users of existing waterfront facilities about levels of contamination, and inform planning of ways to mitigate the effects of stormwater and combined sewer overflows. And with regard to all classes of contaminants, the Foundation is interested in research that can elucidate potential changes in their behavior and transformations within the Hudson ecosystem in response to climate change.
- ***Evaluating ecosystem services.*** While it is generally recognized that the natural resources of the Hudson River and its watershed have great value, the services that the ecosystem provides have not generally been quantified in ways that have proved useful for managers and decision makers. Given the high degree of competition for government resources and the difficulty of making policy decisions concerning such services, the Foundation has sought to define and articulate more clearly the services provided by the Hudson River ecosystem in terms that meet the needs of the public sector. Consequently, the Foundation is embarking on a collaboration with ecosystem valuation experts to examine several key management and related scientific issues in the Estuary. If the anticipated insights and recommendations direct a conclusion that further solicited research on the application of ecosystem valuation to these issues will be useful to—and used for—management decisions, the Foundation may seek specifically focused proposals on this topic in a separate solicitation in 2017 or as part of future calls for proposals.

HUDSON RIVER FUND 2017 GRANT CYCLE: OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In developing projects consistent with this Call for Proposals, the Foundation encourages the use of existing data sets to complement proposed laboratory and field programs or to synthesize information about a particular topic. Many such data sets have been generated over the past several decades, particularly through monitoring activities, some of those monitoring programs continue today. These data provide an opportunity to conduct additional analyses related to scientific questions and issues that were not contemplated as part of the individual programs. For example, the Hudson River Environmental Conditions Observing System (www.hrecos.org) provides a unique opportunity to better understand how and why conditions are changing throughout the entire stretch of the tidal Hudson. In addition, a remote water sampling station, located at Marist College, has been added to the HRECOS network and is available for use by investigators. Potential investigators are encouraged to consider using this facility, as well as other HRECOS data resources, for their research.

THE HUDSON RIVER FUND GRANTS PROGRAMS: CATEGORIES AND PROCEDURES

Hudson River Fund grants are made in five categories: Hudson River Research Grants, Travel Grants, Expedited Grants, Mark B. Bain Graduate Fellowships, and Tibor T. Polgar Fellowships.

HUDSON RIVER RESEARCH GRANTS

There will be one formal funding cycle in 2017 for Hudson River Research Grants in the areas discussed in the previous sections.

Hudson River Research Grant Policies and Application Procedures

Proposals are sought from researchers at colleges and universities; other non-profit institutions; profit-making institutions; government (local, state, and federal) agencies; and unaffiliated researchers. The Foundation prefers, but does not require, that unaffiliated researchers seek some institutional affiliation for the purpose of conducting the proposed research. There are no geographic restrictions on the location of either the investigator or the institution. Proposals seeking funding for more than two years are generally discouraged; investigators considering a longer-term project should consult with the Foundation's Science Director before submitting a preproposal.

Preproposals, full proposals, and fellowship applications are to be submitted electronically. **Necessary forms and full filing instructions can be obtained from the Foundation's website, www.hudsonriver.org.**

Preproposals

A proposal to the Foundation for a Hudson River Research Grant must be preceded by a preproposal consisting of a cover page, project description of no more than three single-spaced pages, and an estimated budget. **An electronic copy in pdf format** of the preproposal must be submitted **in accordance with the instructions on the Foundation's website, www.hudsonriver.org, by 5:00 pm, Monday, November 7, 2016. Three hard copies** of the preproposal, **one with original signatures by the Institutional Representative and Principal Investigator on the Cover Page**, and postmarked by November 7, 2016, must also be sent to the Foundation. The preproposals will be reviewed by the Foundation, and the applicant investigators will be notified by **Thursday, December 8, 2016**, as to whether a full proposal should be submitted. Full proposals will be due by 5:00 pm, **Wednesday, January 18, 2017**.

Proposal Design

Full proposals should be combined into one pdf document and include the sections described below insofar as they are applicable. Standardized forms, which should be used for each application, can be found on the Foundation's website, www.hudsonriver.org.

The main body of the proposal should be as succinct as possible, and no longer than 15 typewritten, single-spaced pages. However, no limits are set on appendices that support the main body of the text, as long as these materials relate substantively to ideas in the proposal. The contents should be assembled as follows:

The first section of the proposal should contain, in the order indicated:

1. *Proposal Cover Page* - The Proposal Cover Page form is provided on the Foundation's website, www.hudsonriver.org.
2. *Proposal Abstract* - A brief, topical abstract (200 words or less) must be typed on the Proposal Abstract form provided on the Foundation's website.
3. *Proposal Budget Summary* - The required Proposal Budget Summary form and instructions for completing this form can also be found on the Foundation's website. Written justifications of expenditures should be provided when special equipment items, extensive personnel, or use of facilities is involved. In the case of multi-year projects, the principal investigator must submit a separate budget for each year along with a combined budget and a proposed calendar of research activities. **Please note:** It is the policy of the Foundation to disallow the charging of student tuition and profits or fees on research grants, and to encourage cost-sharing by the applicant's institution. In general, the Foundation will reimburse indirect costs up to 15 percent of the modified total direct costs (modified to exclude certain large equipment purchases and subcontractor services).
4. *Table of Contents*.

The remainder of the proposal should contain the sections described below, as appropriate:

5. *Statement of research goals and objectives*.
6. *Statement discussing the relevance of the project* to the overall mission of the Foundation and the Hudson River Fund to make science integral to decision-making with regard to the Hudson River and its watershed and to support competent stewardship of this extraordinary resource. In addition, the proposal should state its relevance to one or more of the Foundation's 2017 research targets listed on pages 5 - 8.
7. *Description of the approach* to meeting objectives, based on current knowledge in the field of study, showing the relationship between proposed accomplishments and existing information, and describing specifically how data are to be analyzed. Proposers should consider the relationship of their intended research to other ongoing research and monitoring in the River, and should strive to interpret their research results through appropriate models and other synthesis frameworks that link relevant efforts together.
8. *Significance of the research* in its field of knowledge, its relationship to other ongoing research in the Hudson River, and its implications for any public policy issues. The critical information or building blocks of knowledge to be provided by the proposed work

should be clear. If this research has been previously supported by the Foundation, this section should present an up-to-date progress report. It should also describe how the proposed study will complement any ongoing research at the proposer's institution or any other institution.

9. *Description of related research* being conducted by the proposer(s) and specific past experience.
10. *List of specific tasks* to be performed (as an itemized list, separate from the description of the approach). If field work is proposed, maps depicting the sampling locations must be submitted. The Foundation has base maps of the entire Hudson Estuary that can be supplied to investigators upon request to the Science Director.
11. *Timetable* for completion of research activities in the project.
12. *List of current and pending research grants or contract support*. Include the project title, agency or foundation sponsoring the research, period of support, time commitment, and amount of award. Mention areas of overlap with the current proposal, if any, and describe time commitments for the principal investigator(s). If the proposed project is a continuation of previously HRF-funded research, a full discussion of the progress of that project, along with a report of any significant results, including publications, must be incorporated into the new proposal.
13. *Bibliography* for proposal (please include article titles).
14. *Resumes* (five-page maximum) of investigator(s) and key support personnel.

The proposal with signatures on the Cover Page must be submitted electronically in one pdf document. Any reprints, appendices, or other materials to be considered with the proposal must be electronically attached to the individual proposal. To avoid delay in the review process, the proposal should be complete at the time of submission. Full proposals will be due by 5:00 pm, **Wednesday, January 18, 2017.** **In addition, five hard copies of the proposal, one containing original signatures by the Institutional Representative and Principal Investigator on the Cover Page, must be sent to the Science Director, Hudson River Foundation, 17 Battery Place, Suite 915, New York, New York 10004.**

Special Conditions

Confidentiality, to the extent possible, will be maintained in the review process, and proposals shall not be used for any purpose other than evaluation of merit for funding. Applicants are encouraged to draw the Foundation's attention to confidential or proprietary information contained in the proposal.

Criteria for Evaluation of Proposals

Hudson River Research Grants are awarded after a rigorous review process, including peer review. Decisions are made on the basis of the following factors: 1) technical merit; 2) the appropriateness of the proposed study to the mission of the Foundation and, specifically, the relevance of the project to the priorities described on pages 5 - 8; 3) qualifications of the investigators and adequacy of facilities for carrying out the proposed research; 4) costs; and 5) likelihood of success, including the publication of the research results in peer-refereed journals. In the case of continuing projects, consideration will also be given to the level of progress achieved to date.

The Grant Award

Notification of Hudson River Research Grant awards will be made by April 2017. After initial approval, the Foundation will arrange specific grant terms with successful applicants.

TRAVEL GRANTS

Travel Grants are available for travel related to the research goals of the Hudson River Fund as discussed in this Call for Proposals. The Foundation is particularly interested in visits by experts from outside the region to share new approaches to environmental questions about the Hudson River. Applications may be made either by individuals or by organizations on their behalf. Applications may be made at any time but should be submitted as far in advance of anticipated need as possible. Institutions may not charge overhead on these grants. Travel requests to attend conferences are discouraged.

Applications should include a letter describing the purpose and time of the travel, a budget, and references. An electronic copy and one hard copy will be required. **All applicants for Travel Grants should contact the Science Director, Dr. Dennis Suszkowski, 212-483-7667, before applying.**

EXPEDITED GRANTS

The Foundation will consider throughout the year proposals for the study of emergency situations affecting the Hudson River, such as unexpected natural or human-induced events, or research for which additional funds are needed to enhance an existing investigation or take advantage of a compelling research opportunity prior to the Foundation's next formal funding cycle.

All potential applicants for Expedited Grants should contact the Science Director, Dr. Dennis Suszkowski at 212-483-7667 before applying. Applicants will be informed of the Foundation's decision, including specific conditions governing the grant as soon as possible.

MARK B. BAIN GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

In 2011, the Foundation named its graduate fellowship program in honor of Dr. Mark B. Bain for his outstanding contributions to Hudson River science. Dr. Bain was a professor of Systems Ecology at Cornell University for 22 years, and until his death in February 2012, a highly productive researcher studying aquatic systems throughout the world. Dr. Bain had a particular interest in the Hudson River and was supported by the Foundation in several important endeavors. His comprehensive study of sturgeons and ground-breaking work on ecosystem restoration planning significantly advanced the conservation of natural resources in the Hudson River and Estuary. The Foundation is pleased to recognize and remember Dr. Bain's achievements and the respect, admiration and affection for him in the Hudson River scientific community.

In 2017, the Foundation will award up to three full-time research fellowships to advanced graduate students conducting research on the Hudson River system. A fellowship awarded to a **doctoral** student will include a stipend consistent with the policy of the student's graduate institution, in an amount of up to \$15,000 for one year, and an incidentals research budget of up to \$1,000. A fellowship awarded to a **master's level** student will include a stipend consistent with the policy of the student's graduate institution, of up to \$11,000 for one year, and an incidentals research budget of up to \$1,000.

Conditions

The award is conditional upon a full tuition waiver or reimbursement by the University. Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited doctoral or master's program, must have a thesis advisor and advisory committee (if appropriate to the institution), and must have a thesis research plan approved by the student's institution or department.

The student's home university will be expected to be the primary source of support for materials and expenses required to do the thesis research and will also be expected to cover any indirect costs associated with the project. In special cases, applicants can apply for a 15-month fellowship in order to extend the proposed project through an additional summer. The Foundation will not accept applications for extensions of existing fellowships.

Application Procedures

The following materials must be included in an application; all necessary forms can be found on the Foundation's website, www.hudsonriver.org:

1. *A Proposal Cover page* (form obtained on the Foundation's website, www.hudsonriver.org). Please include the name of the student in the *Principal Investigator* box. The title of the thesis/dissertation should be included in the *Title of Proposal* box. In the *Purpose/Objective* box, please state whether support is sought for a

fellowship at the master's or doctoral level. Please list the student's advisor as co-principal investigator on the cover page.

2. *A description* (10 pages maximum, single spaced) of the thesis project. This should include a statement of the objectives of the project and the approach to the research, as well as a summary of research already completed, and a student resume.
3. *A timetable* for the completion of the research.
4. *A statement of the significance and relevance* of the project to the Hudson River Foundation's objectives.
5. *An estimate of the cost* of supplies, travel, etc. Use *Proposal Budget Summary* (form obtained on the Foundation's website, (www.hudsonriver.org) and include stipend amount in *salaries* and research incidentals under *expendable equipment* (no other line items should be filled in).
6. *Resume* of student.
7. *A letter from the University* stating that the student will receive a tuition waiver or reimbursement for the period of the fellowship.
8. *Two letters of recommendation*; one must be from the student's advisor and should certify the student's current status, evaluate the student as a future researcher, and rate student's project both on technical merit and on relevance to the goals of the Foundation. Fellowship awards will be made through the student's academic institution. Therefore, applications must be submitted through the institution's grants administration office.

Applications for graduate fellowships in electronic pdf format must be received by 5:00 pm, **Monday, March 13, 2017**. Decisions will be made by the end of June 2017. Electronic filing instructions can be found on the Foundation's website, www.hudsonriver.org. **Three hard copies of the application, one containing original signatures by the Institutional Representative and Graduate Student on the Cover Page and postmarked no later than March 13, 2017, should be forwarded to the Science Director, Hudson River Foundation, 17 Battery Place, Suite 915, New York, NY 10004.**

TIBOR T. POLGAR FELLOWSHIPS

The Tibor T. Polgar Fellowship program is a research program conducted in cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Named in honor of the late Dr. Tibor T. Polgar, a major contributor to the early development of the Foundation, this program provides a summertime grant (**\$3,800** for each fellowship) and limited research funds for eight college students (both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible) to conduct research on the Hudson River. The objectives of the program are to gather important information on all aspects of the River and to train students in conducting and reporting on scientific studies and

public policy research.

Over the past 31 years, the Polgar Fellowship program has produced a large body of research in the Hudson River, with a concentration on the four marshes of the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve, compiled in the annual Polgar Fellowship reports published by the Foundation. Anyone interested in copies of this material in order to plan projects building on this work or in discussing potential research topics should contact the Foundation.

Because of the training and educational aspects of this program, each potential fellow must be sponsored by a primary advisor. The advisor must be willing to commit sufficient time for supervision of the research and its presentation, and to attend two meetings (orientation and final reports) with their students. Advisors will receive a stipend of \$500.

Application Procedures

Students applying for a Polgar Fellowship should include:

1. *A letter of interest* in the program.
2. *A short description* (4-6 pages) of the research project, including a statement of its significance.
3. *A timetable* for completion of the research.
4. *An estimate of the cost* of supplies, travel, etc.
5. *A letter of support* from the student's advisor.

Applications for Polgar Fellowships in electronic pdf format must be received by the Foundation by 5:00 pm, **Monday, February 13, 2017**. (For filing instructions visit the Foundation's website, www.hudsonriver.org) Successful applicants will be notified of their fellowship awards early April 2017. **A hard copy of the application, postmarked no later than February 13, 2017, must also be submitted to the to the Polgar Fellowship Committee, Hudson River Foundation, 17 Battery Place, Suite 915, New York, NY 10004.**

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