



Interstellar Research Group

<https://irg.space>

scholarship@irg.space

[@InterstellarResearchGroup](https://www.instagram.com/InterstellarResearchGroup)

DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM Academic Year 2027-2028

PURPOSE: The Interstellar Research Group “was created to foster and assist the study, research and experimentation necessary to make human interstellar travel a reality, with untold benefits to life on Earth,” said IRG President Emeritus John Preston. “We can imagine no better way to demonstrate that goal than the creation of these scholarships, helping new generations of thinkers, builders and explorers to set their sights on the stars.”

To provide a scholarship of \$2500 to one graduate student attending a U.S. university seeking a doctoral degree in their first graduate degree.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION

- **The application time period for the scholarship is September 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026.** Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.
- Refer to the criteria below for eligibility requirements.
- Applications that are not in compliance with these instructions will not be considered.
- Due to the number of applications received, only winners will be contacted.
- The completed application is to be emailed to:

Scholarship Committee

[***scholarship@irg.space***](mailto:scholarship@irg.space)

CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

- Applicant must be a full-time student accepted to or enrolled in an accredited college or university that awards a doctoral graduate degree in the United States for the academic year Fall 2027 – Spring 2028.
- Open to doctoral graduate students enrolled at a university in the United States/or its territories.
- **Do not include your Social Security Number (SSN) on any documents.**
- All essays will be checked for plagiarism and AI. Any applications with plagiarism or AI will be disqualified.
- Areas of study included can be STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and related fields such as Social Sciences (such as psychology, political science, economics, sociology, anthropology), Humanities (such as History, English literature, philosophy), Professional degrees (such as Doctor of Medicine, Law, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Veterinary, Optometry, Physical Therapy) and areas in business, health, nursing, public administration, agriculture, food sciences, education, construction, and any degrees which can be applied to interstellar space travel missions and to help establish successful civilizations.



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SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

Write a brief (one page) explanation of career goals and biographical (background) information, in .docx format (Word) (250 words maximum).

- *Describe community service projects you have done and any student activities involvement (positions held, how you were involved): [can be included in biographical information].*
- *Please save your file as: **lastname.firstname.Doctoral.2027.bg***

Write a 2,000 to 2,500-word essay on the student's research and its application to achieving interstellar missions, in .docx format (Word).

- *Please save your file as: **lastname.firstname.Doctoral.2027.essay***

All essays will be checked for plagiarism and AI. Any applications with plagiarism or AI will be disqualified.

Enrollment History

List the name of any colleges you have attended, year started, and year ended.

- College: _____ Year Attended: _____
- College: _____ Year Attended: _____
- College: _____ Year Attended: _____

A copy of school transcripts.

- *Please save your file as: **lastname.firstname.Doctoral.2027-transcripts***

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DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM Academic Year 2027-2028

Name:

Last: _____

First: _____ Middle: _____

Contact Info:

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Home Address:

Street | Apt: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Sex:

Male: _____ Female: _____ Other: _____ Prefer not to say: _____

Marital Status:

Single: _____ Married: _____ Divorced: _____ Prefer not to say: _____

Race/Ethnic Background:

____ Asian
____ Black or African American
____ Hispanic/Latino
____ White
____ Other
____ Prefer not to say

Citizenship:

____ U.S. Citizen
____ U.S. National
____ International Student

Country of Citizenship: _____

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DOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM Academic Year 2027-2028

Acedemic Status:

Current Year: ____ 1st ____ 2nd ____ 3rd ____ 4th

University (attending in fall 2027):

Advisor: _____ Expected Date of Graduation: _____

Parental Consent and Verification:

Name and Address of parent(s) or legal guardian(s) if under 18 years of age:

I certify that the statements and information provided in this application package are true to the best of my knowledge and grant my permission for the information contained herein to be shared with the Interstellar Research Group, judges, and the scholarship donors. Furthermore, I understand that if awarded the Interstellar Research Group Scholarship, I am required to submit proof of enrollment in a university by September 1, 2026, or the scholarship will be forfeited. I understand that the scholarship check will be mailed to the Bursar Office of the College/University I am attending.

Applicant's Signature (required):

Date: _____

*Please save your application as: **lastname.firstname.Doctoral.2027.application***

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