The Wildlife Society

Early Career Professionals Working Group

Professional Development Grant Application Process

The objective of the Early Career Professional Working Group (ECPWG)'s **Professional Development Grant** is to provide funding to facilitate training, research, and professional opportunities for early career professionals. ECPWG will award grants of **$500** to ECPWG members on a competitive basis. Awards are contingent upon availability of funds.

Eligibility requirements:

Applicants must be members of The Wildlife Society and the ECPWG and should not be a previous ECPWG Professional Development Grant recipient. Applicants cannot be enrolled in a full-time degree program. **Full-time students are NOT ELIGIBLE.** Please contact the Student Development Working Group for grant opportunities geared toward full-time students at tws.sdwg@gmail.com.

What constitutes professional development?

- Attendance at state, regional, or national TWS meetings
- Training
- Workshops

Applications should be completed on Google Forms and can be accessed via the ECPWG website (https://wildlife.org/ecpwg/grants/). Applications consist of a short essay, budget of costs, description of meeting or workshop/training, and description of applicant's involvement or need for training (presenting at meeting or workshop, how it meets your professional goals, etc.).

Grant deadlines are July 15 and December 15 each year. After the deadline has passed, the ECPWG Awards Committee will review the submitted applications and rank applicants based on merit, financial need, and overall impact on career and the wildlife profession. The total number of awards available may change on an annual basis due to program requirements and funding. The grants review board will notify applicants via email if they have been selected or not.

Awards will be distributed in the form of a reimbursement after the event has occurred and proof of attendance has been provided to the ECPWG board. Once the workshop/training/meeting has completed, awardees will submit scanned receipts/total costs to **ecpworkinggroup@gmail.com**. The treasurer will write a check and mail it to the awardee, not to exceed $500.