



## **Western Integrated Pest Management Center**

### **2022-26 Student Fellowship program**

This new program by the Western IPM Center seeks to actively support early career IPM professionals and practitioners in their search for educational opportunities and networking experiences. The program is focused on supporting a deeper understanding of a wide variety of technology, pest management, sustainability, business and government issues. The program also hopes to help young pest management professionals build a strong, enduring network of peers, and business and government contacts, not only in the academic realm but from private industry as well. Participants can apply to attend events and professional science meetings, or participate in internship programs that provide experiential learning so that students can explore potential careers and build professional networks, or participate in other learning opportunities. Internship programs that include both research and extension or outreach are strongly encouraged.

Fellowship applications are capped at \$1,000. The award should be used to fund travel to meetings or other professional development opportunities, meeting registration, costs associated with internships with private companies, research and extension programs or other professional development opportunities.

Applications will be accepted year-round and considered on a rolling basis. There is no deadline to apply and approximately \$40,000 will be available.

The application system has also changed this year for all Western IPM Center programs. All information must be entered directly into forms in the application (rather than attached as PDFs). We recommend preparing your proposal in a word processing program, such as Microsoft Word, and cut-and-pasting the requested information into the online forms. More information about using the application portal is available at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbGDFwpS4sk7LMIQjLNlcFCajhsj9WVwR>

If you encounter any problems or have questions, contact Western IPM Center staff member, Matt Baur at [mebaur@ucanr.edu](mailto:mebaur@ucanr.edu) or 530.746.1072.

The Western Integrated Pest Management Center (“The Center”) envisions a healthier West with fewer pests. It works to achieve this vision by forming partnerships and collaborations across a broad diversity of stakeholders in the West.

The Center fully supports the 2020 Agriculture Innovation Agenda and the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) 2014-18 Strategic Plan. The 2020 Agriculture Innovation Agenda and the USDA NIFA 2014-18 Strategic Plan highlight the necessity to develop the human capital and diverse workforce necessary to develop and incorporate technology solutions to address some of the most recalcitrant pest management issues facing society.

The Center Student Fellowship Program has been established to provide professional development opportunities to the next generation of Integrated Pest Management scientists and practitioners to assure success of the Agriculture Innovation Agenda and the USDA NIFA Strategic Plan. In this fellowship program, we aim to prepare career ready IPM practitioners that possess the skills to develop new technology solutions, to function in collaborative teams that extend across disciplines and industries, and to extend the work to stakeholders and end-users. By providing early career support to students, the program cultivates supportive relationships between students, university researchers and extension agents, and industry peers to equip students with the skills needed to facilitate their transition to the workforce and prepare future leaders for integrated pest management and a sustainable future.

**Available funds.** Funding of approximately \$40,000 is available for the student fellowship program.

**Who may apply?** Undergraduate and graduate students in the West are eligible to apply. The West includes the following states and territories: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, American Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

**Application submission.** All applications will be submitted through a secure online system ([grants.ipmcenters.org](https://grants.ipmcenters.org)). Videos demonstrating how to use the system are available at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLbGDFwpS4sk7LMIQjLNicFCajhsj9WVwR>

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

This program seeks to actively support early career IPM professionals and practitioners in their search for educational opportunities and networking experiences. The program is focused on supporting a deeper understanding of a wide variety of technology, pest management, sustainability, business, and government issues. The program also hopes to help young pest management professionals build a strong, enduring network of peers, and business and government contacts, not only in the academic realm but from private industry as well. Participants can apply to attend events and professional science society meetings or participate in internship programs that provide experiential learning so that students can explore potential careers and build professional networks or participate in other learning opportunities. Internship programs that include both research and extension or outreach are strongly encouraged.

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**Please see the Western IPM Center newsletter for meeting suggestions. Some additional conferences include:**

PrecisionAg Vision Conference usually in January

More information at [www.thevisionconference.com](http://www.thevisionconference.com)

Farm Journal AgTech Expo

For more information see [www.farmjournalagtechexpo.com](http://www.farmjournalagtechexpo.com)

LARTA AgInnovation Conference held each year at the end of August

For more information see [www.agshowcase.com/](http://www.agshowcase.com/)

**Possible programs that might provide information about internship programs include:**

USDA-NIFA and NSF Establish Nationwide Network of Artificial Intelligence Research Institutes listed at [nifa.usda.gov/press-release/artificial-intelligence-research](http://nifa.usda.gov/press-release/artificial-intelligence-research)

Western IPM Center Signature Programs may be good resources for identifying internship opportunities. Applicants can contact the Center signature programs leads to inquire about these programs. The leads include Silvia Rondon (Silvia.Rondon@oregonstate.edu) for the weather-based decision tools program, Al Fournier (fournier@cals.arizona.edu) or Peter Ellsworth ([peterell@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:peterell@cals.arizona.edu)) for the pest loss and impact assessment program, Kassim Al-Khatib ([kalkhatib@ucdavis.edu](mailto:kalkhatib@ucdavis.edu)) for the protocols for responding to invasive species program, and Matt Baur ([mebaur@ucanr.edu](mailto:mebaur@ucanr.edu)) for the comment coordination program.

#### **APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

Applicants will have to submit their application at [grants.ipmcenters.org](http://grants.ipmcenters.org).

Fellowships should not last for more than one year.

Statement of Interest in the Center Fellowship Program (1500 words)

The statement of interest should detail how the meeting or program will benefit the student prepare for a career in integrated pest management.

Student Biosketch

One letter of reference

Unofficial undergraduate and graduate transcripts

Budget and Budget narrative

The budget narrative should fully justify budget items

#### **The Review Process**

Applications are considered by a selection committee comprised of program officers from the Center and should take a maximum of four weeks. Applications are judged primarily on the quality of the student and the student's potential to benefit from the activity. The proposed meeting or program

should be recognized as a legitimate entity by the review committee. If there is some question about the legitimacy of the meeting or program, the committee may choose to request additional information about the meeting or program.

If you have questions or problems with the submission system, please contact

Matt Baur

Phone: 530-750-1270

Email: [mebaur@ucanr.edu](mailto:mebaur@ucanr.edu)

[www.westernipm.org](http://www.westernipm.org)

The Regional IPM Centers are supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture and comply with the USDA-NIFA nondiscrimination policy ([www.csrees.usda.gov/about/nondiscrimination.html](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/about/nondiscrimination.html)).