THE W. GARFIELD WESTON FOUNDATION
NORTHERN SCIENCE & KNOWLEDGE

Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies

The W. Garfield Weston Award for Northern Research (Master's)

1. The W. Garfield Weston Foundation is sponsoring up to 15 scholarships, valued at $15,000 each, for students currently enrolled in a Master's program in the natural sciences pursuing northern research.

2. Applicants who wish to be considered for *The W. Garfield Weston Award for Northern Research* must be in the first thirteen months of a Master's program at the time of application. At the time of receipt of the award, they must have received approval of their research proposal, including any required ethical reviews and/or research licenses.

3. Applications are invited from candidates engaged in a natural science program leading to a thesis who demonstrate exceptional promise, academic excellence, leadership, and a strong commitment to northern research. Preference will be given to applicants who (a) have a clearly defined research project that includes significant research time spent in the Canadian north, (b) demonstrate excellence in northern research, (c) can demonstrate the relevance of the research to northerners and northern scholarship, and (d) exhibit a willingness to communicate research results within the scientific community, in northern communities and at national meetings.

4. The Selection Committee will be guided by the considerations listed in #3, namely: academic record, research ability, leadership skills, potential benefit of the research to the North, referees' reports, and the applicants' interest in, and commitment to the North and northern studies.

5. Projects from all natural science subject areas will be considered, provided they include a field research component conducted within the term of the award in the Canadian North (see Northern Boundary Map: http://acuns.ca/website/awards/northern-boundary-map/).

6. The scholarship covers an eleven-month period of study. Proof of registration in a Master's program and one progress report including a two-minute video are required.

For questions regarding The W. Garfield Weston Award Program, please contact westonawards@acuns.ca.

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General Criteria

You must:

- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident;
- be enrolled full time in college or university at the time of application and over the tenure of your award;
- not concurrently hold two awards administered by ACUNS, but you may hold other awards and financial support during your award tenure;
- include a northern fieldwork component in your research that is conducted within the term of the Award; and
- conduct your research project in the North as defined here: http://acuns.ca/website/awards/northern-boundary-map/.

Application Instructions

There are four parts to a W. Garfield Weston Award application: the application form, referees' reports, transcripts and additional questions. **All four parts must be received in the office before January 31, 2019**.

1. **Application**
Please read the award guidelines and instructions carefully before completing the form. In order to apply, you will be required to create an ACUNS account by clicking the sign-up button at www.acuns.ca. Once you have registered, you will receive an email to confirm. This account will allow you to save your application and track the progress of your application(s), referee reports and transcripts.

2. **Referee Reports**
For this award, applicants are asked to have three referees complete the online referee's report. Two of these forms must be from academics and the third must come from a northern resident capable of judging the methods and objectives of the research project (e.g. a territorial government scientist, an academic living full-time in the North, a member of a First Nation responsible for local licensing, etc.). The Adjudication Committee requires that the northern reference will have relevant geographic and research ties to the jurisdiction where the project will take place. If possible, the northern reference should have a direct connection to the research and/or be able to comment on

the proposed research plan. During the application process, you will be asked to enter the names and email addresses of the individuals you will ask to serve as referees in support of your application. Referees will receive an email directly which will include the report to be completed. **If you are applying to more than one award administered by ACUNS, your referee is required to complete a separate form for each application.** Upon submission of the report, your account will be updated to reflect its completion.

3. **Transcripts**

Only original transcripts will be accepted. Please note that it can take several weeks to have official transcripts ordered and delivered. **It is highly recommended that you order these well in advance of the application deadline.** Please send one copy of all required official grade transcripts, in a single package to:

The W. Garfield Weston Award Program
c/o Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
32 Colonnade Road, Suite 200
Ottawa, Ontario K2E 7J6

4. **Additional Questions**

- If given additional funding to organize and carry out outreach activities in northern communities near your proposed research locations, what would you do and how would you maximize your time there (max. 250 words)?

- What would be the potential benefits to you and the northern communities (max. 250 words)?

- What would be the expected duration of this extended time in the North (preferably immediately preceding, following or during your field work season) (max. 100 words)?

- Have you already begun engaging with these northern communities to determine their priorities, their interest, and the feasibility of these outreach activities (max. 100 words)?

- Please provide a budget for reasonable expenses related to your proposed outreach activities. NOTE: The expense categories outlined in the template table below are provided as an example, please edit and add categories to suit your activities' needs.

Expense	Amount ($)
Travel	
Accommodation	
Food	

PLEASE NOTE: Answers must be sent as a **Word** document, as per deadline, via email to: westonawards@acuns.ca.

General Award Information

- For projects including field research outside of Canada, the relevance and benefit of the circumpolar fieldwork to Canadian northern scholarship must be clearly indicated.
- Applications are reviewed by a multi-disciplinary committee; technical jargon should be kept to a minimum.
- Applications to more than one award administered by ACUNS require each referee to complete a separate form for each application.
- Award recipients are identified in May. Only successful candidates will be notified.
- Payment will be issued in instalments and is to be used as a stipend.