The UC Davis Institute of the Environment and its Environmental Faculty Fellows and Scholars Program supports scholars – from undergraduate and graduate students to faculty and professional researchers – throughout their careers at UC Davis. Through this program we’re building a professional development and mentorship network of scholars engaged in collaborative and transformative environmental and climate change research.

This call is for proposals from graduate students (M.S. or Ph.D.) who’d like to participate in the 2023 Graduate Student Award. The graduate student Scholars program is designed for UC Davis graduate students who advance progress on the Institute of the Environment’s thematic pillars and/or its deep commitment to environmental and climate justice. Each Scholar is awarded $5,000 to be used for their research. The graduate student Scholars are encouraged to engage with Environmental Faculty Fellows and undergraduate Sustainability Scholars toward implementing environmental and climate solutions. Throughout the year, there will be opportunities for the Scholars for networking and for developing communication skills in translating science to the public. Each awardee will be expected to present their progress at an annual event hosted by the Institute in the year of their award.

With this call, we are offering 2 opportunities to participate:
(1) The Environmental and Climate Justice Scholar Award
(2) The Earth Scholar Award

To be considered for either Graduate Student Scholar award, submit by 5 p.m. March 10, 2023 an application to ecpeters@ucdavis.edu.

For questions about the application process please reach out to Elena Peters ecpeters@ucdavis.edu.

See next page for application details.
(1) The **Environmental and Climate Justice Scholar Award** for research in environmental studies/sciences\(^1\) that contributes to environmental justice

This opportunity is offered by the *Environmental and Climate Justice Hub* at the UC Davis Institute of the Environment. Successful proposals will involve environmental studies and/or sciences research that clearly contributes to environmental justice, including the resolution of environmental inequalities or the improvement of environmental health. We are interested in supporting projects with a collaboration/community engagement component. Additional funds are available to fund community partnerships to facilitate community based research.

(2) The **Earth Scholar Award** for research that addresses the Institute of the Environment’s thematic pillars

This opportunity is offered by the UC Davis Institute of the Environment. Successful proposals will address one or more of the Institute’s thematic pillars. Students are encouraged to consider how their proposed research advances environmental and climate justice, although this is not a requirement of this set of awards.

Guidelines for all proposals:

UC Davis graduate students in any department, program, or field and any year may apply. Proposals will be evaluated by an interdisciplinary group of scholars; please make objectives and significance of research broadly understood. Research questions should be clearly stated and methods appropriate to address the questions concisely explained. Research proposed in the application may be currently underway and may or may not be part of a student’s dissertation/thesis.

**Awards and Expectations:** Awards will be made on the basis of scholarly merit, feasibility of completing the proposed work, and fit with the call announcement. Eleven awards of $5000 each will be made. Funding will be awarded by April 1 and must be spent by Sept. 2024. Awardees will comprise a cohort and be required to meet (1) once in spring quarter 2023 for a kick off event and introduction to the Institute of the Environment and the Environmental and Climate Justice Hub and (2) a Faculty Fellows and Scholars celebration in fall 2023 at which they will be invited to present a brief presentation or poster on their research. In addition, there will be monthly networking meetings throughout the award period. Office hours with ECJ Hub Director and Program Manager will be available throughout the award period to support all scholars as they navigate through their programs.

For the **Environmental and Climate Justice Scholars** whose proposed work involves (or would like to develop) a justice component, additional funds for community partners (up to $3000) that can be used to offset costs associated with participating in research (these funds may be used for non-scholarly purposes).

---

\(^1\) “Environmental/ studies sciences” is defined broadly to include environmental inquiry applying social, natural, biological, physical and/or other scientific methods. Fields include but are not limited to: environmental humanities, environmental policy, ecology, public health, engineering, community development, environmental education etc.
honoraria for partners’ time, and/or travel or events with partners to participate in collaboration). Students may submit an application for these funds in addition to their own application, however, this is optional. Community partners will be invited to participate in our culminating events. Scholars will be responsible for reporting back about budget and expenditures of funding.

For more information about environmental justice, and the Environmental and Climate Justice Hub visit: https://environment.ucdavis.edu/environmental-and-climate-justice-hub

Applications (3 pages or less) are due by March 10 by email to ecpeters@ucdavis.edu.

Application Requirements
APPLICANT INFORMATION: Your name & email address
- Graduate group or department; MS/MA or PhD program, Year in graduate school
- Name of faculty member you are working with as a reference
- Indicate for which of the two scholar opportunities you are applying:
  1. The Environmental and Climate Justice Scholar Award
  2. The Earth Scholar Award

PROJECT DESCRIPTION (2 page)
- Title of proposal and 1-2 sentence summary

Problem Area
- What is the big question that interests you?
- For proposals from both scholar types and with an environmental justice component, what is the specific environmental justice problem you plan to study or are currently studying? Provide a brief background, rationale, and explain how the proposed research may lead to environmental justice, improved environmental health for people, or to the resolution of environmental inequalities; discuss your positionality in relation to your proposed research?
- Location where research will be conducted/focus and other pertinent information
- Identify specific objectives. Address whether the research described in this proposal is part of a larger project or thesis, indicate the general objective(s) of the larger project and what your proposed work will add.

Methods and Procedures to address the research objectives
- How will the research be carried out?
- What specific methods will you use? Describe how the methods address your objectives (please note that a variety of methods are welcome)
- Timeline for proposed activities, including anticipated start and end dates.
- Where relevant, make note of collaboration with environmental justice partner/organization, if applicable.
Application Requirements for Community Partner Funding (optional):
A feature of our program is that we are setting aside funding for collaborators working with Scholars to address environmental injustices. Up to $3000 of funding to support partners’ collaboration with the Scholars will be available throughout your project period. We will be taking applications for community funding on a rolling basis until funds are depleted. You may apply now or as your project develops. If you are requesting this additional funding now, please address the following:

COMMUNITY PARTNER INFORMATION:
● Name of partner
● Key contact person and their contact information

PARTNERSHIP DESCRIPTION:
● Describe the status of your partnership and the work you are doing together.
● What roles are community partners playing in your research?
● What are the benefits to community members/partners of this research?

BUDGET AND BUDGET NARRATIVE
● Add to your budget what community funds would be used for and include your rationale. Please note that we can only provide funding for honoraria to support partners’ time, cover travel to support partners’ participation, or provide food for community events.