



**COAST Undergraduate Student Research Support Program**

**AY 2016-2017**

**Application Deadline: October 1, 2016, 5:00 p.m. PDT**

**Application found at: <http://www.fresnostate.edu/csm/news/index.html>**

The CSU Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology (COAST) is the CSU system-wide affinity group for marine and coastal related activities. COAST integrates system-wide resources and promotes interdisciplinary multi-campus collaborations to advance our knowledge of California's natural coastal and marine resources and the processes that affect them. The scope of COAST includes the ocean, coast and coastal watersheds. COAST's goals are to

- Advance our knowledge of natural coastal and marine resources and the processes that affect them.
- Support research related to marine, estuarine, and coastal regions.
- Develop innovative solutions to the economic, sociological, ecological and technological challenges that our coastal zone faces.
- Promote environmental literacy to foster stewardship and sustainable use of our coast.

COAST aims to increase CSU student participation in faculty-mentored marine and coastal research throughout the CSU. Through funding from the Chancellor's Office and the campuses, COAST will provide support to CSU undergraduate students working with CSU COAST faculty members.

All undergraduates from all Fresno State's Colleges that are working a project related to the goals of COAST are encouraged to apply.

Goals & Objectives of COAST

[http://www.calstate.edu/coast/about/goals\\_objectives.shtml](http://www.calstate.edu/coast/about/goals_objectives.shtml)

**Key Dates & Information**

Application Deadline: October 1, 2016, 5:00 p.m. PDT

Award Notification & Project Start Date: October 15, 2016

Maximum Award Amount: \$1000 (typical awards will range between \$500-\$1000)

Questions or additional information: Contact Dr. Mathieu Richaud ([Mathieu@csufresno.edu](mailto:Mathieu@csufresno.edu)) or Dr. Larry Riley ([lriley@csufresno.edu](mailto:lriley@csufresno.edu)) CSU Fresno COAST representatives.

## **Applicant Requirements and Guidance**

Applicants are required to

1. Work with a CSU COAST faculty mentor, and
2. Define a project that supports one or more of COAST's goals.

Before the funds are delivered to the student, the sponsoring faculty member will have to subscribe to the COAST listserv and have a current profile on Fresca (<https://fresca.calstate.edu/>) including the following elements: contact and biographical information, areas of interest (keywords) and relevant publications.

Applicants must be CSU students in their Junior or Senior year with a major GPA of 3.00 or better. Part-time undergraduate students may apply if they will be enrolled full time during the award period. Faculty mentors must verify these conditions in the letter of recommendation.

COAST encourages all types of research in Science, Arts, Engineering, Business and Economics. Clear connections to COAST goals must be identified. Priority will be given to projects that are applicable to the needs of California.

Individual students may submit only one application in response to this announcement. Faculty members may sponsor more than one student.

**See Evaluation Criteria below for specific point values associated with each of these elements.**

### **Evaluation Criteria**

Submissions will be evaluated based on the quality of the research described, how the proposed research meets one or more of the goals of COAST, and the need for support. The following evaluation criteria will be employed:

- Project description (55 points): Quality of writing (15); clear description of project (15); significance and novelty (5); experimental design and methodology (10); clearly stated hypotheses (5); data analysis plan (5)
  - The last three evaluation criteria might not apply to all students. Inquire with the COAST campus representatives if you are unsure
- Relation to COAST goals (15 points): General interest in marine/coastal science and career goals (5); relationship of proposed research/project to marine, estuarine, coastal, or coastal watershed environments, organisms, issues, environmental literacy (5); application to California's needs (5)
- Need for support (10 points): Clear demonstration that the award will support your research goals and contribute to your overall education. Timeline must be included.

- References (10 points): Statements sufficiently referenced (5); use of original, peer-reviewed literature, both foundational and current (5)

### **Award Conditions**

Awardees are required to

1. Make an oral or poster presentation at an on-campus research symposium or external meeting or conference within one year of receiving the Award, and acknowledge COAST in the presentation.
2. Acknowledge COAST in any publications resulting in whole or in part from the Award.
3. Provide COAST with an abstract of their research and a one-page summary of the impact of this award on their undergraduate experience and professional goals within six months of receiving the award.

### **Important Financial Aid and Tax Liability Information**

Applicants are *strongly encouraged* to consult with their campus financial aid office *prior to applying* to COAST to determine the potential impact of this award to other forms of compensation provided through their university, including financial aid. All forms of assistance must be coordinated through campus financial aid offices. COAST awards will be processed by the campus *in coordination with* other forms of financial support. Please be advised that receiving and accepting a COAST award could lead to a decrease in other forms of financial assistance. Ordinarily, adjustments (if any) are made to loans first before other grants or scholarships. Award recipients should contact their campus financial aid office to determine how the award may affect their total financial aid package.

Because of Internal Revenue Service and other requirements, campuses may also consult with accounting, human resources and international programs staff to determine appropriate method of payment and any tax withholding requirements. Award recipients should consult with a tax professional regarding tax liability resulting from any award.