Alaska Chapter - American Fisheries Society
Molly Ahlgren Undergraduate Scholarship

2027 Application Procedure

The Molly Ahlgren Scholarship was established by the family of Dr. Molly Ahlgren and the Alaska Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) in 2004 to honor her life and dedication as an Associate Professor of environmental science at Sheldon Jackson College
< https://afs-alaska.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/27/2025/12/onco251.pdf >.

There is $8,000 available from the Molly Ahlgren Scholarship Fund to be awarded either as one, two, or three Scholarships which will be determined by the qualifications of the applicants. The maximum Scholarship amount would be $8,000 with the minimum amount being $2,000. The Scholarship will be provided for the 2027 Spring semester to undergraduate students in their sophomore, junior, or senior year of studies pursuing a baccalaureate degree involving the disciplines of fisheries, aquatic, or biological science. The Scholarship selection will be made in the fall of 2026 and funds will be made available for the Spring 2027 semester.

Applicants will be evaluated on their work and/or educational experiences and interest in the disciplines involving fisheries, aquatic or biological science, interest in professional advancement, and reason(s) for financial need. The Scholarship recipient(s) will be introduced at the Alaska Chapter Annual Meeting to be held in Anchorage, AK, 29 March to 2 April 2027. Travel to the Annual Meeting is recommended but not required. The Alaska Chapter is working on establishing funding for travel expenses, but funding is not currently available.

If travel funds become available and the Scholarship recipient(s) attend the Alaska Chapter meeting, they will be expected to write a brief statement about their experience at the Alaska Chapter meeting that will be published in the Alaska Chapter's newsletter, *Oncorhynchus.* Recipients will also be expected to be a member of the AFS or have submitted an application to become a student member of the AFS, if awarded a scholarship.

APPLICATION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

1. Applicants must have a major field of study involving the disciplines of fisheries, aquatic, or biological science.

2. Applicants must be an undergraduate student considered to be a sophomore, junior, or senior by accumulation of credits as determined by the University of Alaska System or Alaska Pacific University and in good academic standing with their respective institution. Applicants may apply in multiple years as long as they meet eligibility requirements.

3. Applicants must submit an application package that contain <u>all</u> of the following:

A. Application form (found at the end of this application announcement)

1. A resume, brief description of the student's degree program and the anticipated date of completion.
2. A statement of the applicant's career goals and reasons for applying for the Scholarship.
3. A statement of the applicant's academic and professional activities and contributions to AFS and what they hope to accomplish in the fisheries, aquatic, or biological science profession.
4. A statement of financial challenges and need.

B. A copy of undergraduate transcripts.

C. Letters of reference from two people familiar with the student's background and abilities, one must be from a faculty member of the applicant's university.

D. The completed application package that contains the application form, resume, transcripts, and letters of reference must be submitted electronically to this email address <**akafs.ahlgren.award@gmail.com**>. The applicant's name must be referenced on each document.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT(s) POST AWARD REQUIREMENT

1. The winning Scholarship recipient(s) will be expected to become an American Fisheries Society member to be eligible to receive Scholarship funds. Student memberships are available. If not already a member, the Scholarship recipient(s) must have proof of a membership application in process to AFS. <https://fisheries.org/membership/join/> *An AFS member number should be placed on the application if the applicant is a current member in good standing.*

2. The Scholarship recipient(s) that have travel expenses paid by the Alaska Chapter AFS will be expected to write a brief statement about their experience at the Alaska Chapter meeting that will be published in the Alaska Chapter's newsletter, *Oncorhynchus*.

THE APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE 5:00 PM ALASKA TIME, Thursday, 12 November 2026.

Late or incomplete application packages will not be considered, no exceptions, including internet technical problems.

SEND TO:
akafs.ahlgren.award@gmail.com

In your email subject line, enter "2027 Molly Ahlgren Scholarship: your name" for each document submitted.

Applicants will receive application receipt confirmation. You are encouraged to contact Scholarship Committee Chairperson Ray Hander for questions and receipt confirmation prior to the deadline: Email: masc@afs-alaska.org.

2027 APPLICATION FORM

Alaska Chapter – American Fisheries Society
Molly Ahlgren Undergraduate Scholarship

Name:_____ **Email address:**_____

Mailing Address:_____

City:_____ **State:**_____ **Zip Code:**_____

Telephone Number: (indicate home or mobile)_____

American Fisheries Society member number: _____ *(if current member in good standing)*

University of record: _____ **Class standing:**_____
(sophomore, junior, or senior)

Degree major:_____ **Anticipated date of graduation:**_____

1) **Please provide a resume and brief description of your degree program.**
2) **Please describe your personal and career goals, particular interest related to fisheries, aquatic or biological science, and reason(s) for applying for the Scholarship.**
3) **Please describe your interests and experiences that demonstrate your involvement in fisheries, aquatic, or biological science related issues. Experience may include professional, contributions to AFS, activities at home, volunteer work, workshops, employment, and/or school.**

   Also, please list any natural resource related awards, scholarships, or honors received.
4) **Please describe your financial challenges and needs and how this Scholarship will help you to achieve your goal.**
5) **Provide a copy of undergraduate transcripts.**
6) **Provide letters of reference from two people familiar with the student's background and abilities, one must be from a faculty member of the applicant's university.**

The completed application package must be submitted electronically to this email address <**akafs.ahlgren.award@gmail.com**>. The applicant's name must be referenced on each document.