Tufts Institute of the Environment (TIE) is an interdisciplinary, university-wide institute which facilitates and coordinates environmental programs at Tufts University. TIE is devoted to advancing and disseminating knowledge about the many ways human interactions affect the environment. TIE focuses on environmental research, technology, policy development and education, recognizing the interdependence of human welfare, animal health, and ecological integrity.

Submission Deadline
Due at the TIE office on Friday, March 13th, 2009. Electronic submissions via email to heather.angstrom@tufts.edu are preferred.

Grant Objectives
- To financially support graduate students conducting environmental research
- To recognize and provide greater visibility for stellar graduate students and their work in an environmental field, and
- To encourage interdisciplinary graduate level research in the environment at Tufts

Grant Description
Matriculated graduate students at any of Tufts University’s graduate programs and professional schools are eligible to apply for designation as TIE Fellows to conduct interdisciplinary environmental research projects. The work completed as a TIE fellow must be part of an independent research project and not otherwise possible without TIE funding. Preference will be given to proposals likely to result in a publication or presentation at the professional level. Applicants must identify a faculty member to serve as mentor to the student. This faculty member must provide a letter of support for the student’s project, to be included in the proposal. However, this fellowship is NOT intended to support work on a faculty member’s ongoing research project. The project should be initiated, conducted, and completed by the student, although it may link to faculty research. In addition, it should not be contingent on receipt of other funds by a faculty member or the student. Applications for research projects involving more than one student will be considered.

Requirements for the successful completion of this Environmental Graduate Student Fellowship include the electronic submission of a poster by April 1, 2010 and a final report by August 31, 2010, as well as a presentation of the results to the greater Tufts community in late spring 2010. Acknowledgment of TIE’s support for research completed during the fellowship must be provided for any form of dissemination, including but not limited to publication, poster or oral presentation, and website posting.

High Priority Areas for Consideration
Water, Energy and Climate, and Health and the Environment have been designated as high priority topic areas in environmental research at Tufts University by TIE. Preference will be given to proposals falling under these topic areas, although proposals under other topics will also be considered. The use of novel
tools and databases developed and supported by Tufts, for example TUSK, Spark, VUE, GIS data sources, etc. are encouraged.

**Evaluation Criteria**

- The problem or issue addressed is significant and timely
- The approach that the student plans to explore or develop is original and appropriate to the problem addressed and includes an interdisciplinary component
- The project relates directly to TIE’s mission and one or more of the High Priority Areas for Consideration outlined above
- The student has relevant qualifications
- The budget meets TIE guidelines on expenditures (see Funding Restrictions below)
- The proposal is well-written and referenced, and conforms to the format requested

**Funding Restrictions**

TIE Environmental Graduate Student Fellowship funds will be available starting July 1, 2009 and ending May 31, 2010. TIE will provide up to $6000 per student based upon the submitted budget for each proposal.

Funds may be used for stipends, travel to conduct research, data collection and analysis, and non-capital supplies needed to collect and analyze data. **Stipends may not exceed $3000.** Funds may not be used for capital equipment purchases, such as computers or other durable equipment, or for travel to conferences. Loans of computers or other equipment may sometimes be arranged through TIE.

TIE expects that the work completed with the fellowship will be part of the student’s course of study (e.g., an internship, applied learning experience, directed study, thesis or dissertation research) and not otherwise possible without TIE funding.

The TIE committee will select the best proposals, with attention to equitable distribution of funds across schools. Those who have not received previous TIE funding are especially encouraged to apply.

**Submission Requirements**

- All completed proposals must be delivered to the TIE office no later than 9 am on Friday, March 13th, 2009. Incomplete and late submissions will not be considered.
- Electronic submissions via email to heather.angstrom@tufts.edu are preferred.

**Contact Information**

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Email: heather.angstrom@tufts.edu
Web: [http://environment.tufts.edu](http://environment.tufts.edu)
Content and Form of Proposal Submission

Application items (excluding résumés and transcripts) are to be written in Times New Roman 12pt font. Pages should be numbered and single-spaced, with 1-inch margins.

1) Cover Page

The Cover Page contains basic information on the project and the member(s) of the research team. Items to be included are:

- Project title
- Student and faculty advisor departmental and school affiliations
- Contact information (mail and email addresses, telephone numbers)
- Amount of funding requested from TIE
- List of previously awarded TIE grants (including travel grants)
- Executive summary (not to exceed 300 words) on the proposed research, expected accomplishments, and how the project contributes to the student’s current program of study

2) Proposal Narrative and Methodology (not to exceed three pages)

The Proposal Narrative must include and accurately describe in detail:

- Brief summary of previous research on this topic (including references)
- The objectives and the rationale
- The problem or hypothesis to be studied and its significance
- How the project directly relates to TIE’s mission and one or more of the High Priority Areas for Consideration outlined above
- Specific approaches, well developed methodology, and data analysis to be used to meet the stated objectives
- Clear, concise statement of expected outcomes
- A statement of the student's long-term educational and career goals, and how this project contributes to these goals as well as to the student’s current program of study

3) Proposal Appendices

These appendices must be included in the grant proposal. Additional appendices are not permitted.

- References from the Proposal Narrative
- A Résumé or CV for the student (not to exceed a single page)
- A current Tufts transcript (an unofficial copy is acceptable); if the student has been at Tufts less than one year, an official transcript from their undergraduate study must accompany the proposal
- A detailed budget itemizing all expenses for the proposed project, and including all sources of funding (see budget template)
- A statement of other teaching or research stipends or other fellowships the student has received, or for which s/he has applied, to fund graduate studies at Tufts
- Two letters of recommendation, including one letter of support from the faculty mentor.