**Marine Science Scholarships and Opportunities**

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\*Last updated Feb. 2025

Please reach out to carlyhaack@ucsb.edu if there are additional resources we should add to this list.

Thank you!

## UC Santa Barbara Scholarships and Opportunities

**Marine Science Institute website** <https://msi.ucsb.edu/opportunities>

**Coastal Fund- UC Santa Barbara Associated Students** <https://coastalfund.as.ucsb.edu/>

**The REEF** <https://msi.ucsb.edu/education/oceans-to-classrooms/opportunities>

**Here’s a periodically-updated funding list for undergraduates/ graduate/ and post doc students. It was created and is updated by a UCSB PhD student:** <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BaC0sX7I8_mMcXxIThEM2kZgSUqi7-l_BHZe_CUvuhw/edit#gid=1028707473>

## Santa Barbara Volunteer Opportunities

**Cachuma Lake Nature Center** <https://www.clnaturecenter.org/giving-and-belonging.html>

**Channel Island Marine & Wildlife Institute (CIMWI)** <https://cimwi.org/>

**Coal Oil Point Natural Reserve** <https://copr.nrs.ucsb.edu/get-involved/>

**Explore Ecology Beach Cleanups** <https://exploreecology.org/>

**Ocean Defenders Alliance** <https://www.oceandefenders.org/>

**Parks and Recreation** <https://sbparksandrec.santabarbaraca.gov/activities/volunteer-opportunities>

**Reef Check** <https://www.reefcheck.org/volunteer-corner/>

**Sea Center** <https://www.sbnature.org/volunteer/adult/sea-center-opportunities/>

**Santa Barbara Channelkeeper** <https://www.sbck.org/our-work/field-work/trash-clean-ups/>

**Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network** <https://www.sbwcn.org/volunteer>

**Santa Barbara Zoo** <https://www.sbzoo.org/about/volunteer/>

**Sedgwick Reserve** <https://sedgwick.nrs.ucsb.edu/get-involved/volunteering/>

**STEM Pals** <https://forms.gle/LvyLPgBz6nzVviJx9>

**Additional SB Volunteer Activities** <https://www.countyofsb.org/2454/Get-Involved>

## National Scholarships

**AAUS Foundation** <https://www.aausfoundation.org/>

* Research scholarships (application due June): AAUS awards two $3000 research scholarships, one to a Master’s program student and one to a PhD candidate
	+ They may also award two additional $1500 scholarships to the next two highest rank proposals
* Training Scholarship: AAUS will fund an Open Water dive course to those who are interested in becoming a scientific diver.
* Kevin Flanagan Student Travel Award (application due January)

**Beneath the Sea** <https://www.beneaththesea.us/scholarships/seaoftomorrow.html>

* A range of scholarships and scuba training grants, from Open Water to Advanced dive certifications. (application due January)

**Boyd Lyon Sea Turtle Fund Scholarship** <https://www.boydlyonseaturtlefund.org/projectsgrantees>

* Annual scholarship for students whose research is focused on sea turtles (application opens October)

**Barry Goldwater Scholarship** <https://goldwaterscholarship.gov/eligibility/>

* Helps support tuition, fees, books, and room and board costs (up to a $7,500 annual max) for sophomores or juniors pursuing a research career (application due January)

**Global Underwater Explorers (GUE) NextGen Scholarship** <https://www.gue.com/nextgen-scholarship>

* Provides a year of scuba training, a travel budget, and a new set of gear to students

**Marine Technology Society (MTS) Scholarships** <https://www.mtsociety.org/scholarships>

* Multiple scholarships available, ranging from $1000 to $2500 and geared towards undergraduate and graduate students

**NOAA Scholarships**

* Undergraduate scholarships (application opens in September) <https://www.noaa.gov/office-education/scholarships>
* Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship<https://fosterscholars.noaa.gov/>
	+ For Master’s and Doctoral degree students (application due December)
* Additional NOAA opportunities <https://www.noaa.gov/education/opportunities/students>

**Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society (OWUSS)** <https://www.owuscholarship.org/internships>

* Rolex Scholarship (application due January)
* Internships (application due January)

**Scientific Boating Safety Association (SBSA)**  <https://scientificboating.org/?page_id=1538>

* Student Training Award: Provides up to four training awards annually to go towards taking a hands-on boat training course.

**Women’s Diver Hall of Fame** <https://www.wdhof.org/scholarships/scholarship-descriptions>

* A range of scholarships and scuba training grants, for both women and men. Training grants include basic dive training and advanced dive training grants, as well as disabled diver training. (application due October)

**Zale Perry Scholarship** <https://www.auas-nogi.org/applications>

* Graduate student scholarship that awards $6000 per recipient (application due August)

## National Fellowships

**Center for Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Fellowship** <https://www.harteresearch.org/ccme>

* Supports a 12-week experience of working under a NOAA scientist at a NOAA facility.

**Nautilus Live Science Communication Fellowship** <https://nautiluslive.org/join/science-communication-fellowship>

* Designed for those interested in science communication and outreach, the program includes a 3-4 week sailing expedition on a deep-sea oceanographic research vessel.

**NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)** <https://www.nsfgrfp.org/>

* This five-year fellowship for graduate students provides three years of financial support inclusive of an annual stipend of $37,000 along with a $12,000 cost of education allowance for tuition and fees (application due October)

**NSF Undergraduate REUs** <https://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/list_result.jsp?unitid=5053>

* The REU program offers research opportunities to undergraduates, funded by NSF. Students work closely with faculty and other researchers during this time, and participants receive stipends. Students must contact an REU site for information and application materials.

**Pew Fellowship** <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/marine-fellows>

* Each Pew fellow is awarded a $150,000 grant, allocated over three years, to complete a research project that produces new data, knowledge, or methods to advance the protection and sustainable use of the world’s oceans

**Sea Grant Fellowships** <https://seagrant.noaa.gov/>

* Community Engaged Internship: Designed for undergraduate students from underrepresented and indigenous communities, stipend provided (applications typically due January-March, and vary by program).
* Graduate Fellowships: Awarded to graduate student and post-docs, as well as recent graduates. Has both federally and California-specific fellowships.
* California Sea Grant Fellowships: <https://caseagrant.ucsd.edu/funding/california-sea-grant-state-fellowship>

**Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Fellowship**  <https://www.whoi.edu/what-we-do/educate/undergraduate-programs/summer-student-fellowship/>

* Supports undergraduate students in performing a 10-12 week research project at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. (application due February)

**Wrigley Institute REU** <https://dornsife-wrigley.usc.edu/education/undergraduate-internships/reu/>

* 10 week lab and field research experience at USC Wrigley Institute on Catalina Island. Applications are typically open January-February.

## Additional Scholarships

**Great Minds in STEM (GMiS)** <https://greatmindsinstem.org/gmis-scholarship-application/gmis-scholarships/gmis-scholarship-guidelines/>

* Merit-based scholarship ranging from $500 to $5000. Applicants can be undergrads or graduate students, and must be of Hispanic descent and/or must demonstrate significant leadership or service within the underserved community (application due April)

**IOScholarships** <https://ioscholarships.com/>

* A free online scholarship search engine. Designed to help underrepresented students find STEM scholarships.

**Minorities in Shark Sciences Scholarship & Fellowships** <https://www.misselasmo.org/fellowships.html>

* Annual scholarship for students whose research is focused on shark science, as well as a scholarship to sponsor attendance to a scientific conference, and a variety of other fellowships

**NAUI Diversity Scholarship** <https://www.naui.org/about/naui-diversity-scholarship/>

* Will provide funding towards a NAUI Instructor course

**ScholarSHPE** <https://shpe.org/engage/programs/scholarshpe/>

* Awards scholarships to Hispanic undergraduate and graduate STEM students (application due April)

**Sea Grant Fellowships**

* Community Engaged Internship: Designed for undergraduate students from underrepresented and indigenous communities, stipend provided (applications typically due January-March, but vary by program). <https://seagrant.noaa.gov/Community-Engaged-Internship>

**Women’s Diver Hall of Fame** <https://www.wdhof.org/scholarships/scholarship-descriptions>

* A range of scholarships and scuba training grants, for both women and men. Training grants include basic dive training and advanced dive training grants, as well as disabled diver training. (application due October)

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**Coastal Fund, UC Santa Barbara** <https://coastalfund.as.ucsb.edu/scientific-dive-and-safety-course-fee-support-program/>

* Fully funds the scientific diving course for 1-3 undergraduates, for each of the Fall and Spring courses

**AAUS Foundational Instruction for New SCUBA Scientists Scholarship**

<https://aausfoundation.org/AAUSFoundation/Scholarships/Diversity_Scholarship/AAUSFoundation/Diversity_scholarship.aspx?hkey=ac65c56b-6d38-4ad3-ac07-0e4fb6654af8>

* Supporting funding for an Open Water certification

**Beneath the Sea** <https://www.beneaththesea.us/scholarships/seaoftomorrow.html>

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**Global Underwater Explorers (GUE) NextGen Scholarship** <https://www.gue.com/nextgen-scholarship>

* Provides a year of scuba training, a travel budget, and a new set of gear to students

**NAUI Diversity Scholarship** <https://www.naui.org/about/naui-diversity-scholarship/>

* Will provide funding towards a NAUI Instructor course

**Women Divers Hall of Fame** <https://www.wdhof.org/scholarships/scholarship-descriptions>

* A range of scholarships and scuba training grants, for both women and men. Training grants include basic dive training and advanced dive training grants, as well as disabled diver training.

**Our World-Underwater Scholarship Society** <https://www.owuscholarship.org/internships>

* Somers Scholarship (application due January): Priority for applicants who have NOT yet received an AAUS scientific diving certification
* Mitchell Scholarship (application due January): Priority for applicants who HAVE received an AAUS scientific diving certification

**USC Dornsife** <https://dornsife-wrigley.usc.edu/engagement/scientific-diving-discovery-program/>

* Month-long program at USC Wrigley Institute on Catalina Island, dedicated to increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in marine science. Provides opportunity for participants to earn their AAUS Scientific Diving authorization, along with ongoing mentoring and professional development.

Boat Training Scholarships

**Scientific Boating Safety Association** <https://scientificboating.org/?page_id=1538>

* Student Training Award Scholarship (application due April and September): Provides funding that can be used towards a boat training course.

**Marine Industry Scholarships**

* <https://boatingindustry.com/tag/scholarships/>
* <https://www.boatus.com/expert-advice/expert-advice-archive/2019/april/scholarships-in-marine-studies-and-technology>

Other Marine Science Opportunities & Job Postings

* **Alaska Dive Semester**

<https://divesemester.alaska.edu/courses.html>

* **Aquarium of the Pacific**

<https://www.aquariumofpacific.org/volunteer/college_internships>

<https://www.aquariumofpacific.org/volunteer>

<https://www.aquariumofpacific.org/employment>

* **California Academy of Sciences**

<https://www.calacademy.org/internships>

<https://www.calacademy.org/volunteering-at-the-academy>

* **California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Employment>

* **California Science Center**

<https://californiasciencecenter.org/employment-opportunities>

* **Catalina Island Marine Institute**

<https://cimi.org/positions/>

* **Channel Island National Park Service**

<https://www.nps.gov/chis/getinvolved/workwithus.htm#CP_JUMP_109376>

* **Conservation Job Board**

<https://www.conservationjobboard.com/category/marine-biology-jobs>

* **Hubbs Seaworld Research Institute**

<https://hswri.org/>

* **Los Angeles Waterkeeper**

<https://www.lawaterkeeper.org/employment>

* **MarineBio Life Job Postings**

<https://marinebio.life/home/resources/careers-internship-more/>

* **Monterey Bay Aquarium**

<https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/about-us/job-opportunities>

* **Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute**

<https://www.mbari.org/>

* **Nautilus Dive Adventures**

<https://nautilusliveaboards.com/open-positions/>

* **Newfound Harbor Marine Institute**

<https://www.nhmi.org/staff.htm>

* **Pacific Whale Foundation**

<https://www.pacificwhale.org/>

* **Reef Check Worldwide**

<https://www.reefcheck.org/get-involved/career-opportunities/>

* **Santa Barbara Channel Keeper**

<https://www.sbck.org/>

* **Schmidt Marine Ocean Job Board**

<https://jobs.schmidtmarine.org/jobs>

* **Stanford Hopkins Marine Station Job Postings**

<https://hopkinsmarinestation.stanford.edu/graduate-programgraduate-student-resources/job-postings>

* **Texas A&M Job Board**

<https://wfscjobs.tamu.edu/job-board/>

* **The Bay Foundation**

<https://www.santamonicabay.org/jobs/>

* **The Nature Conservancy Job Board**

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/careers/>

* **USA Jobs- Job Search**

<https://www.usajobs.gov/>