

Southern California Chapter of URISA
2003 Student Scholarship Program

The Southern California Chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) is now receiving applications for the 2003 Student Scholarship Program. This program is designed to award 3 college students in any field or discipline (Geography, Engineering, Environmental Sciences, Urban Studies, Planning, Transportation, Oceanography, Geology, Social Sciences, etc.) who have demonstrated the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to solve any problem specific to their field of study and are interested in pursuing a career in GIS.

Scholarship Amount:

Each Scholarship is for a total of \$1500.00 to be disbursed as follow: \$1,000 cash plus \$500.00 to cover the cost of registration, travel, boarding, and lodging at the Annual URISA California State Conference on GIS (Calais). The intent of the latter is to provide the recipient with exposure to state of the art developments in the field of GIS and an opportunity to network with GIS professionals. The 3 winners will receive \$500.00 awards well in advance of the next URISA California State Conference, to be held from April 9-11, 2003 in Palm Springs, CA. The \$1,000.00 cash prize plus a Certificate will be formally presented at the State Conference.

Eligibility:

- Current student (full or part-time) working towards a degree, with proof of enrollment in an accredited college or university in Southern California.
- Completed courses in the area of GIS.
- Current member (Regular or Student) of any section within the Southern California Chapter of URISA. The sections include Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego.

Application Deadline:

All applications must be received by January 17th, 2003. Please mail to:
Dan Henderson, Scholarship Chair, Southern California Chapter of URISA
GIS Coordinator, UCSD Libraries
9500 Gilman Drive, 0175R
La Jolla, CA 92093-0175
858-534-1249

All questions regarding the 2003 Scholarship Program may be directed to:
Dan Henderson, dhenderson@ucsd.edu
A panel of GIS educators and professional will judge the applications. The scholarship chair will select panel members from academia, public agencies, and private organizations.

Notification of Award:

The President of the Southern California Chapter of URISA, Kim Mathis, will notify applicants in writing by February 14th, 2003.

Selection Criteria:

- Evidence of a balanced academic training with GIS knowledge and skills.
- Enthusiasm and commitment to the goals of pursuing GIS as a profession.
- Willingness to enhance GIS skills through community and professional activities.
- Evidence of academic faculty support.

Application Procedure:

All applications for the Scholarship Program must be submitted on the “Southern California Chapter of URISA: Student Scholarship Application Form. Photocopies of the applications are acceptable. Evaluation will be based on the documentation submitted as well as on letters of reference. A combination of factors will be assigned points of value totaling 100 that will determine the recipient(s) of the scholarships. The point values are indicated in parentheses below. Individuals scoring less than 70% will not be considered.

The following items are REQUIRED:

- **Completed Application Form**
- **Official Copy of School Transcript** – It is anticipated that the transcript would demonstrate the applicant’s efforts in acquiring GIS knowledge/skills. GPA & GIS courses. (35)
- **Two letters of reference** – with at least one from a faculty member who is familiar with the applicant’s efforts to obtain and apply GIS skills currently as well as in their chosen profession/career. Please list names, titles, and phone numbers of the individuals providing the reference on the application form and attach the letters of reference to the latter. (25)
- **Statement from applicant** - A maximum of two pages (typed, single spaced) describing the applicants area of interest in GIS, the efforts devoted towards learning GIS skills, how GIS has been utilized in the current program of study, and a clear indication of how the applicant intends to apply those skills in their profession/career. (25)
- **Other Involvement** – In one or more separate paragraphs sub-titled “Other Involvement”, please include information such as 1) Community and school involvement; 2) Professional development such as details on internships served; 3) Professional involvement: list professional organizations you are involved with, years of involvement, positions held and participation on committees, task forces and other related activities; 4) Details of awards and honors received, etc. Please include references with contact phone numbers to support this information. (15)

