

Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee (MSPC) **Undergraduate Research Award – 2020**

The Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee (MSPC) Undergraduate Research Award is designed to encourage undergraduates majoring in Crop and Soil Sciences to conduct soybean research under the supervision of a faculty member at Michigan State University. Interested students are encouraged to identify a faculty mentor and discuss the possibility of mentoring a soybean research project. Interested faculty members are encouraged to identify potential students and discuss the possibility of mentoring a soybean research project. The research award is placed in a Michigan State University account, administered by the research faculty mentor. A minimum of 80% of the Research Award shall be used to pay the undergraduate student a stipend or hourly wage and for travel to a conference. The remaining budget may be for materials and supplies.

AWARD: The Research Award is for \$4,000. The Research Award will be for the summer and/or fall semester of 2020. The Research Award must be spent by December 15, 2020. The Research Award will be made to the student, and will be administered by the research faculty mentor in her/his department.

TO APPLY: Undergraduate applicants must write a 2–3 page research proposal. The proposal should include their name, the faculty mentor name, and the phone numbers and e-mail addresses for both. The body of the proposal should include:

- Proposal title:
- Problem Statement: Why is the research needed (what is the problem) and what is the research designed to test?
- Background: Relevant and correctly cite background information (your references to date).
- Objective: What is the objective of the research?
- Experimental approach: Describe the methods for the field, greenhouse, and/or lab research.
- Anticipated Outcomes: Include the significance of the expected results to the soybean industry.
- Budget:
- References:

FACULTY SPONSOR: Any faculty member who is actively engaged in soybean research at Michigan State University is qualified to be a mentor. The faculty mentor should assist in writing and reviewing the research proposal with special attention to the budget. Both the student and faculty mentor should approve the distribution of funds. In addition, the mentor should provide a letter of reference including a statement of his/her willingness to supervise the proposed research and to provide any needed space, equipment and supplies above those requested in the proposal.

SUBMISSION: The completed proposal and faculty mentor letter of support should be sent electronically as a SINGLE PDF document to the Department of Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences by the date all Scholarships are due in 2020. Send to graham2@msu.edu In the Subject Line please write: Undergraduate Soybean Research Award Application