

Council on Ocean Affairs, Science & Technology (COAST) Undergraduate Student Research Support Program

The California State University (CSU) Council on Ocean Affairs, Science & Technology (COAST) is the umbrella organization for marine and coastal related activities within the CSU. COAST promotes research and education to advance our knowledge of natural marine and coastal resources and the processes that affect them. COAST encourages all types of research and other activities that relate to the open and coastal ocean, coastal zones (bays, estuaries, beaches), and coastal watersheds where there are clear and direct linkages between the organism, material or process in the watershed and the coast or ocean (e.g., anadromous fish, surface and groundwater flow, water quality). Work supported by COAST is not limited to research in California.

COAST goals are to:

- Support research related to marine, estuarine, coastal and coastal watershed regions.
- Advance knowledge of natural coastal and marine resources and the processes that affect them.
- Develop innovative solutions to the economic, sociological, ecological and technological challenges that our coastal zone faces.
- Promote environmental literacy to foster stewardship and sustainable use of our coast.

Funding

COAST has provided each campus with \$3000 in funding to support undergraduate research that falls under the scope of the COAST mission. CSUDH will administer undergraduate research grants through the College of Natural and Social Sciences Office of the Dean. Faculty and students in all colleges are eligible to apply. Requested funds may support travel (for field work), supplies and equipment, software, time worked on the project, and/or other documented expenses related to the student's proposed research project.

Funding will be disbursed as soon as March 2025. Selected participants must complete all work no later than August 31, 2025 and submit a final report to COAST in August or May of 2025, depending on whether the student plans to work over the summer or not, respectively.

Requirements

- Be a CSUDH undergraduate student in good academic standing.
- Work under the supervision of a CSU faculty advisor.
- Conduct research within marine, coastal, or watershed regions.
- Participate in a clearly defined project that is aligned with one or more of COAST's goals.

Application Submission Instructions

Submit your application via email to Dr. Samantha Leigh at sleigh@csudh.edu AND Dr. Charlene McCord at cmccord@csudh.edu by Friday, March 13, 2025.

Your application must be submitted in PDF format and include the following information (use 12-point Times New Roman font and 1-inch margins, double-spaced):

1. **Project title**
2. **Project abstract** (200 word maximum)
3. **Project Description:** Include explanation of the context or justification for the project, specific aims, methods to be employed, significance of the research for meeting COAST's goals, and potential impact of the research on the field of study.
4. **Itemized Budget and Budget Justification** for the funding requested, indicating how funds will be used (one page maximum).
5. All student and faculty mentor information listed in the table below:

Student Applicant First Name:	Student Applicant Last Name:
Student Email:	Student Phone Number:
Student ID#:	Overall GPA:
Major:	Number of Units Completed:
Anticipated Graduation Date:	Amount of Funds Requested;
Faculty Mentor First Name:	Faculty Mentor Last Name:
Faculty Mentor Email:	Faculty Mentor Phone Number:
Faculty Mentor Department:	Faculty Mentor Office Location:

Submission: Convert the document to PDF format and submit as an email attachment to sleigh@csudh.edu and cmccord@csudh.edu by Friday, March 13, 2025.

Other Information:

Funded applicants will be required to submit a final report to CSUDH and COAST in May or August 2025 (depending on whether they work through the summer or not).

COAST support must be acknowledged by the student or faculty member in any publications or presentations resulting in whole or in part from funding provided. COAST should be referenced as "California State University Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology (COAST)". If needed, the COAST logo is available in various file formats at <https://www2.calstate.edu/impact-of-the-csu/research/coast/about/Pages/coast-documents.aspx> .

Important Tax Liability Information

Applicants should be aware that you may be liable for State and Federal income tax on any funding provided directly to you as a stipend. You should consult with a tax professional regarding potential tax liability resulting from any support provided through this program.

Review

Review of completed applications will commence shortly after **Friday, March 13, 2025**. Submissions after this date may be considered pending availability of funding.