

Ruth Dickie Grants-in-Aid and Research Scholarship

Description and Overview

Madison Chapter of Graduate Women in Science (GWIS) is pleased to offer annual Ruth Dickie Grants-in-Aid and Research Scholarships.

History of Award: Ruth Straethern Dickie, a life member of GWIS, passed away on December 24, 1993, at the age of 80, a Professor Emeritus at the UW-Madison at the time. She received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Food and Nutrition at UW-Madison, joined the faculty in 1942 as an instructor, and became a full professor in 1981. She served as Director of Food and Nutrition Services for the UW Hospital for 27 years before retiring in 1983. Professor Dickie became a member of GWIS in 1947 and served in most offices of the Madison Chapter, including President twice and National President from 1978-1979. **Her support and dedication to the graduate education and research efforts of women in science were expressed in her personal and professional life. She cared passionately and left a generous endowment to Madison Chapter, the income to provide scholarships and grants-in-aid to women in science.**

Eligibility: To be eligible, the applicant must be enrolled full-time as a graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the biological, chemical, or natural sciences (including, but not limited to: physical, environmental, mathematical, computer, life sciences, anthropology, psychology, and statistics), including home economics and engineering. The applicant must be a current, dues-paying member of the Madison Chapter of GWIS. Follow the link on the website to join <http://www.gwisbeta.org/becoming-a-member/> if you are not already a member.

Awards: There are two different scholarships that may be applied for, (1) Grants-in-Aid and (2) Research Scholarships (see chart below for more details).

1. Grants-in-Aid scholarship awards will range from \$500 - \$800. The proposed budget must fit this amount.
2. Applicants for the Research Scholarship can receive up to \$5000. Applicants must develop a budget with their application and the exact award amount will be determined by the Chair of the Awards Committee. Research Scholarship amounts will range from \$500 - \$5,000.

Members may apply for only one award in any given year and are eligible to be awarded each only once (one Grants-in-Aid and one Research Scholarship).

Interested students may contact the GWIS Madison Chapter scholarship coordinators (**Natalie González Velázquez**; ngonzalezvel@wisc.edu and **Usha Polaki**; vpolaki@wisc.edu) or read the application submission guidelines on the website (www.gwisbeta.org). Application materials and descriptions can be downloaded from the Madison Chapter website.

Selection: Awards will be made to graduate women of outstanding ability and promise in research who are currently enrolled in a graduate program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. All awards will be announced by June of the year applied. Acknowledgment of support of Madison Chapter of GWIS in publications resulting from the project funded by the Ruth Dickie Endowment at UW-Madison is requested.

Due Date: Applications must be received by the GWIS Madison Chapter scholarship coordinators (**Natalie González Velázquez**; ngonzalezvel@wisc.edu and **Usha Polaki**; vpolaki@wisc.edu) by **11:59 pm Central Standard Time on March 31st, 2026.**

Grant-in-Aid vs Research Scholarship details and requirements

| Grants-in-Aid Up to \$800 | Research Scholarship Up to \$5000 |
|---|---|
| Application Form Project Title with Abstract (100-word limit) | |
| Description of Project: -Hypothesis and specific aims -Background and significance -Broad description of experimental techniques and methods | |
| Description of project: 800-word limit | Description of project: 1500-word limit |
| Evidence of Research Ability and Experience CV or Bio-sketch Two letters of recommendation: -Advisor or department head -Someone able to evaluate applicant's ability to perform the proposed research | |
| Proposed Budget | |
| Optional: Relevant Personal Factors (200-word limit) | |