



MRS Graduate Student Awards

MRS Graduate Student Awards are intended to honor and encourage graduate students whose academic achievements and current materials research display a high order of excellence and distinction. MRS seeks to recognize students of exceptional ability who show promise for future substantial achievement in materials research.

Procedure

An applicant must be the author or co-author of a paper being presented in the MRS meeting at which the award is made. Selection of award recipients is done in two steps. First, a group of finalists is selected on the basis of information provided in the Graduate Student Award applications. Second, each finalist presents a 10-minute talk, followed by a 5-minute discussion period, in a special judging session at the MRS meeting. Gold and Silver Award recipients are chosen by a panel of judges on the basis of the application, presentation, and discussion.

Awards

All finalists receive either a Gold or Silver Award and a complimentary one-year MRS student membership. The meeting registration fee for all finalists is paid by MRS. The awards are presented at the Award Ceremony during the week of the MRS meeting and announced in the *MRS Bulletin*. The prizes consist of: \$400 and a presentation plaque for the Gold Award; \$200 and a certificate for the Silver Award.

Rules & Eligibility

Previous MRS Gold Award recipients are ineligible.

The applicant must:

- Have good standing in a recognized academic graduate degree program or must have received his/her final research degree within the four months prior to the meeting
- Participate in the MRS meeting at which the paper will be presented as the author or co-author of a paper; the applicant need not be the person who presents the paper at the meeting
- Be prepared to participate in a session at which all finalist presentations will be judged (usually on the first day of the meeting)

Note: Because the award recognizes the achievements and potential of the student, not the research project, the finalist must present the paper.

Applications should be sent to:



John B. Ballance, Executive Director
Attention: GSA Program
Materials Research Society
506 Keystone Drive
Warrendale, PA 15086-7573
Fax: 724-779-4398

Application

The applicant must submit the following items to the Materials Research Society (MRS) by the deadline date specified on the application in order to be considered for the Graduate Student Award competition (late applications will not be evaluated):

1. Completed **application form**
2. One copy of the **abstract(s)** that has (have) been submitted separately for the meeting and which the applicant selects for award evaluation
3. A two-page-or-less **description of the research** associated with the abstract(s) to be considered for the award, including a clear, concise description of:
 - the aim of the work and its relationship to the status of the field
 - applicant's specific contributions and how they demonstrate exceptional ability and future promise
 - significant results of the work and how they relate to the specific research area and the broader materials field
4. **Letter of Evaluation** form and supporting letter, both signed by the applicant's thesis advisor

Note: ALL above materials must arrive at MRS by the deadline date. Resumés will not be included in the evaluations.

Criteria for Selection

In the selection of both finalists and award recipients, the judges look for evidence of:

1. Excellence in the conduct of materials research, including
 - thoroughness of the applicant's work
 - originality and independence of the applicant's contributions
 - depth of understanding of the research topic, the methodologies used, and the relationship of the results to the specific research area and the broader materials field
 - scholarship and ingenuity shown by the student in attacking the research project
2. Promise for future substantial achievement in materials research

General Information

- Complete application packet must be received by the deadline date specified on the application (approximately 90 days prior to the first day of the MRS meeting at which the paper will be presented). MRS Graduate Student Awards are presented at both the Spring and Fall Meetings.
- Each application is valid for only one specific meeting.
- Finalists will be notified approximately six weeks before the meeting and will be required to present a special talk for judging at the Graduate Student Award Special Talk Session during the week of the meeting. They will be requested to send a head/shoulders photograph to MRS for a poster display at the meeting.
- Gold and Silver Award recipients will be announced at the Award Ceremony during the week of the meeting.

Any questions concerning the Graduate Student Award application may be directed to Jane Stokes, Graduate Student Award Administrator, Phone 724-779-3004 x302, or E-mail: stokes@mrs.org.





2002 MRS Fall Meeting, Boston, MA • December 2-6
APPLICATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 30, 2002

Abstract Information

Print the title(s), and related symposium code(s), of the abstract(s) for which you are an author or co-author during the 2002 MRS Fall Meeting. List only the abstract(s) that you would like to have included in the evaluation and provide one copy of each. In order to meet the application deadline, **do not wait** for MRS notification regarding the status of your abstract. If an abstract is not accepted for the MRS meeting, it will not be included in the evaluation process.

SYMPOSIUM CODE(S)
(A, B, C, etc.)

ABSTRACT TITLE(S)

MRS USE ONLY

Applicant (Please print)

Name:

Institution:

Department:

Address:

Tel:

Fax:

E-mail:

Social Security No. (USA only):

Thesis Advisor (Please print)

Name:

Title:

Institution:

Department:

Address:

Tel:

Fax:

E-mail:

Check List

- 1. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND** Complete Page 2.
- 2. ABSTRACT(S)** Provide one copy of each abstract you listed above.
- 3. DESCRIPTION OF WORK** In two pages or less, provide a brief description of your work associated with your abstract(s). Resumés are not included in the evaluation process. Describe:
 - The aim of the work and its relationship to the status of the field
 - Your specific contributions and how they demonstrate exceptional ability and future promise
 - Significant results of your work and how they relate to the specific research area and the broader materials field
- 4. LETTER OF EVALUATION** Give your Thesis Advisor the "Letter of Evaluation" form (included with this application), and ask your advisor to send the Letter of Evaluation directly to MRS Headquarters by **AUGUST 30, 2002. In order for your application to be complete, your advisor's Letter of Evaluation must arrive by the deadline!**

Any questions concerning this application may be directed to Jane Stokes, Graduate Student Award Administrator, Phone 724-779-3004 x302, or E-mail: stokes@mrs.org.

Applicant's Name:

Educational Background

CURRENT DATA: (a) Name and location of current graduate school and years of attendance:

(b) Department:

(c) Major field of study:

(d) Degree you are working toward:

(e) Date you expect to receive this degree:

PREVIOUS EDUCATION: (Graduate, Undergraduate)

Name and Location of School	Department	Years in Attendance	Major Field of Study	Degree Awarded and Date
--	-------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------------

OTHER SPECIAL TRAINING:

Submission

Send this signed form, together with your description of work and copy of your abstract(s) to: John B. Ballance, Executive Director, Attention: GSA Program, Materials Research Society, 506 Keystone Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086-7573; Fax 724-779-4398. **DEADLINE: AUGUST 30, 2002.**

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

2002 MRS Fall Meeting, Boston, MA • December 2-6

This form and a letter of evaluation are to be sent to MRS Headquarters by **AUGUST 30, 2002** in support of an application for the Materials Research Society's Graduate Student Award.

(To be filled in by applicant)

APPLICANT'S NAME AND INSTITUTION:

SYMPOSIUM CODE(S):

(A, B, C, etc.)

THESIS ADVISOR'S NAME AND TITLE:

NOTE TO THESIS ADVISOR:

Thank you for assisting in the MRS Graduate Student Award program by providing the appraisal and opinions for which you are our most informed and responsible source.

In two pages or less, please comment on the performance of this student in the conduct of his/her current research and on his/her promise for future substantial achievement in materials research. Keep in mind the selection criteria listed below. The application, of which this letter of evaluation is an important part, and the finalist's presentation are judged by researchers with expertise both in and outside of the applicant's project area.

In the selection of both finalists and award recipients, the judges look for evidence of:

1. Excellence in the conduct of materials research, including
 - thoroughness of the applicant's work
 - originality and independence of the applicant's contributions
 - depth of understanding of the research topic, the methodologies used, and the relationship of the results to the specific research area and the broader materials field
 - scholarship and ingenuity shown by the student in attacking the research project
2. Promise for future substantial achievement in materials research

THESIS ADVISOR'S SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

DEADLINE: For the applicant to be considered, this form and letter must arrive at MRS headquarters by AUGUST 30, 2002.

Please send this form, and your supporting letter, to John B. Ballance, Executive Director, Attention: GSA Program, Materials Research Society, 506 Keystone Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086-7573; Fax 724-779-4398.