SWITZER ENVIRONMENTAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS – Please Circulate

The Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation invites applications from highly talented graduate students in New England and California for Switzer Environmental Fellowships for the academic year 2013-2014. The award amount is $15,000. At least twenty fellowships will be awarded to assist graduate students in a broad range of environmental science and related fields. Guidelines and instructions are available on our website at http://www.switzernetwork.org/grant-programs/fellowship-program-how-apply. Only completed and qualified applications will be considered. All applications must be submitted online per the instructions.

Deadline for Applications: January 10, 2013

The Switzer Fellowship Program

For over twenty-five years, the Robert & Patricia Switzer Foundation has sponsored Fellowships for environmental graduate students in New England and California. Each Fellowship award is $15,000 and represents an extraordinary opportunity for a few, select students. This year we will be selecting the twenty-seventh class of Switzer Fellows since the program was founded in 1986.

The Switzer Environmental Fellowship awards are extremely competitive. At least twenty Fellowships are awarded each year to students who are enrolled in graduate programs at accredited institutions in the six New England states and California. Ten Fellowships are awarded in New England, and ten in California. We typically receive well over 150 applications for the ten Fellowships in each region. A full description of our program is found on our website.

The goal of the Switzer Foundation is to mobilize leaders from diverse disciplines who focus on integrated solutions to environmental issues. In addition to receiving financial assistance, Switzer Fellows receive professional development support and become part of an alumni network (the Switzer Fellowship Network) of over 500 environmental professionals and past Fellows dedicated to environmental protection and improvement. The Switzer Fellowship Network is a highly respected resource locally, nationally and internationally for non-profit organizations, government agencies, and other entities. Bolstered by the Foundation’s long-term support, Switzer Fellows are using their expertise in natural and social sciences, business, law, and policy fields to sustain, restore, and steward our life support systems and create sustainable communities. In addition to the Fellowship award, Switzer Fellows gain access to other Switzer Foundation grant programs and professional development opportunities designed to advance their career development.
Candidate Profile

Candidates for the Fellowship should demonstrate leadership potential, be able to clearly communicate their objectives for applying their technical or professional expertise to environmental issues after graduation, and convey a clarity and sense of purpose about their work. Candidates for the Switzer Fellowship are chosen not only for their excellence in academic and scientific work, but also on their true dedication to aggressively pursue practical solutions to environmental problems. The Switzer Environmental Fellowship is not a research grant, nor are the Fellowships restricted to a specific field, but a good foundation in basic sciences is considered a plus. Past Fellows have studied in a range of fields including environmental law, public policy, natural resources management, architecture, business and journalism as well as in more traditional sciences of chemistry, biology and engineering. We seek applications from, and will make awards to, a diverse cross-section of graduate schools and programs and student backgrounds. More detailed information about the Switzer Foundation, the Environmental Fellowship Program, and the network of Switzer Fellows can be found at the Switzer website at www.switzernetwork.org.

The Switzer Foundation is interested in applications from both terminal Master’s degree students and doctoral students. Master’s students who are likely to continue in a doctoral program should not apply until the doctoral stage. To be eligible, PhD students must have completed at least three years of doctoral study as of July 1, 2013 or have passed their qualifying exams by May 1, 2013.

How to Apply

The online application form and instructions are available on our website at http://www.switzernetwork.org/grant-programs/fellowship-program-how-apply We no longer accept paper applications. All applications must be submitted by January 10, 2013, with all required documentation. Paper applications, incomplete applications, or late submissions will not be considered.

If you have any questions, please contact Foundation staff by phone at 207-338-5654 or by e-mail as follows:

Lissa Widoff, Executive Director lissa@switzernetwork.org
Erin Lloyd, Program Officer erin@switzernetwork.org
Don Brackett, Administrative Officer don@switzernetwork.org