



Florida Academy of Sciences

Dr. Elizabeth A. Hays Travel Award

Application Form for 2026 Annual Meeting

The Florida Academy of Sciences provides travel support for students enrolled at colleges and universities to present papers at its annual meetings. This awards program is supported by an endowed account, the Dr. Elizabeth A. Hays Travel Award Fund. Awards of \$100, which are based on demonstrated financial need, may be used for Academy student membership for the calendar year of the meeting, and the costs of travel, lodging, and meals. In addition, **the registration fee is waived for award recipients.** (Applicants will be informed about awards early enough for them to register for the meeting with or without paying by the early registration deadline.)

A completed application form must be submitted via email or postmarked by **Friday, 13 February 2026** or earlier and be accompanied by (1) a copy of the **abstract (submitted online by 30 January 2026 at: flacademyofsciences.org/submit-abstract)** for an oral or poster presentation at the 89th Annual Meeting of the Academy; (2) an **essay** on the significance of the student's attendance of the annual meeting and on the reasons for financial need; (3) an **itinerary**; and (4) a **letter** of support from the student's research or academic advisor. If submitting by email, please scan or save all of above documents into a single pdf or MS Word file.

The letter of support must address the student's **financial need**, not the nature of the research; and it **must certify** that the student is currently enrolled at the institution. In addition, the advisor must indicate whether or not the institution can support the student's travel by institutional vehicle or other mode of travel if the student requests a subsidy for travel. The advisor's letter may be sent separately, but it, too, must be emailed by **13 February 2026** or earlier. It is recommended that the student provide the advisor with a copy of this completed application form and the essay to assist the advisor in composing the letter of support.

The application will be reviewed by the Awards Committee of the Academy, and all the information submitted will remain confidential. The abstract will be published in *Florida Scientist* volume 88 as submitted per instructions in the Call-for-Abstracts. Recipients will be announced along with recipients of other student awards made for the annual meeting. This form, the essay, other supporting documentation, and the advisor's letter should be emailed to:

Dr. Sarah Krejci
FAS Awards Committee Chair
Email: krejcis@cookman.edu

In accordance with Academy policy, the Awards Committee does not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, political belief, age, or disabilities.

Name of student: _____

Current college or university: _____

Currently enrolled (**check one**): B.A./B.S. M.A./M.S. Ph.D. Major: _____

Undergraduates, current classification (**check one**): freshman sophomore junior senior

U.S. Postal address: _____

Email address: _____

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|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Advisor | Department Chair/Head |
| Name | | |
| Circle status of advisor | Research Academic | |
| Department | | |
| Institution | | |
| Street or other address info. | | |
| City, State, Zip Code | | |
| Telephone | | |
| Email address | | |

Title of presentation: _____

Format of presentation (**check one**): Oral Poster

Authors: _____

I am requesting a grant to assist with travel expenses for the 2026 Annual Meeting of Florida Academy of Sciences. In submitting this application and supporting documentation, I recognize that, if granted an award, I must be the presenter of the paper described above and that I will use the funds for their intended purposes or return to Florida Academy of Sciences the funds received and forfeit the waiver of the registration fee.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email this completed form and supporting material (**abstract, essay, itinerary, advisor’s letter**) to: Dr. Sarah Krejci, FAS Awards Committee Chair, email: krejcis@cookman.edu. If sent separately, have your advisor email the letter of support to the same address. All materials must be received no later than **February 13, 2026**.