



URISA Texas 2024 - 2025 Scholarship

URISA Texas is pleased to announce applications for the 2024-2025 scholarship awards are now open for submission. URISA Texas is a chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA), that provides professional education and training, a vibrant and connected community, advocacy for geospatial challenges and issues, and essential resources. We foster excellence in GIS and engage geospatial professionals throughout their careers.

Purpose

This scholarship provides URISA Texas the perfect opportunity to encourage and assist in further education, whether that be the beginning of your GIS journey or the continued growth of your career. The URISA Texas Scholarship is intended to aid students with tuition and other expenses associated with postsecondary studies.

Eligibility

The scholarship is open to any Texas resident currently enrolled in an associate, undergraduate, graduate, or certificate program involving GIS/Geography. Document requirements include proof of Texas residency and an official acceptance letter or course registration from a University or College program.

Application Process

The application process consists of the Scholarship application form, a short essay, and a map component. The details for these submissions are provided on page 2. The deadline for submission is June 5, 2024 by midnight. A lack or a wealth of experience will be taken into account during the judging process to make the scoring fair for all regardless of the applicant's level of experience. The scholarship committee will review all applications and notify the winners by July 10, 2024. Only applicants that meet ALL REQUIREMENTS will be considered. Questions and entries should be sent to scholarship@urisatexas.org.

Award

The scholarship consists of 4 award levels:

- o 1st Prize - \$1,000 Check
- o 2nd Prize - \$750 Check
- o 3rd Prize - \$500 Check
- o Crowd Favorite - \$250 Check

Winners will be acknowledged with their headshots and short bio on the URISA Texas website and in social media.



URISA Texas 2024-2025 Scholarship Application

Name (First and Last): _____

Address (Street/City/State/Zip): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

School/University: _____

Name of Degree/Certificate Program: _____

Type of Program: Associate Undergraduate Graduate Certificate

Academic Year: 1 2 3 4+

Years of Academic Experience: _____

Years of Professional Experience: _____

Proof of Texas Residency

This scholarship is open to residents of Texas. Proof of residency can include a copy of a valid Texas State ID, a utility bill, a transcript, or a bank statement showing your current address. The applicant does not have to attend a school within the state of Texas.

Proof of Enrollment

All applicants enrolled in either an associate, undergraduate, graduate, or certificate program may apply. The applicant **MUST** be enrolled in a GIS/Geography program or can show proof of related coursework. Proof of enrollment must be submitted on a school letterhead showing the applicant is enrolled in relevant classes.

Map Details

The map theme is the applicant's choice. Map size should be 11x17 and in PDF format. Get creative, use fun data and make a meaningful map. URISA is a software agnostic organization, feel free to use any software, whether it be GIS or graphic design, or hand draw a map. The more artistic the better!

Short Essay Details

The essay should be used to describe the map. Below are questions that should be answered over the course of the essay. The essay should be 1 page, single spaced, Times New Roman, 12pt font.

- o What is the purpose of the map? What is conveyed?
- o What story does the map tell?
- o Who is the audience?

- o Why were the content and elements in the map chosen? (think imagery, colors, why was/wasn't a certain element included, overall design)
- o How is the design compatible with its purpose?
- o BONUS: If there was any geoprocessing or analysis on the data that went into the map please describe that process.

Deadline

Applications are due by midnight, June 5, 2024 to scholarship@urisatexas.org, with the subject "Scholarship Application". Applications will ONLY be accepted via email. Recipients will be announced on July 10, 2024 via email and subsequently an announcement will be made on all URISA Texas Social media channels and website. Checks will be mailed out following a confirmation of the current mailing address of the recipients.

Submission Checklist

- School Acceptance Letter/Registration Confirmation
- Proof of Residency
- Map in a PDF format
- Essay in a PDF format
- Application Form
- Headshot for sharing via social media and URISA Texas emails
- Short biography - 250 word maximum (Can be included in body of email application)

Statement of Acknowledgment

- I acknowledge that URISA Texas has my permission to share my map via email, social media, and their website.
- I acknowledge that if selected as a scholarship recipient, URISA Texas has my permission to share my headshot via email, social media, and their website.
- I acknowledge that the provided information is true and accurate, and the map and short essay are my own original works.

Signature: _____ Date: _____