# IAFP Student Travel Scholarship

***Proudly sponsored by:***

**Objective:** To provide travel funding for full-time graduate and undergraduate students to attend the Annual Meeting (including symposia and technical sessions) of the International Association for Food Protection and to encourage developing scientists to participate in Association activities. Scholarships will be awarded to students enrolled full-time in a college or university food safety-related degree program.

*For the 2027 program year, it is our pleasure to support the travel of up to 20 qualified students to attend IAFP 2027, to be held July 18-21, 2027 in Kansas City, Missouri. Through generous contributions to the IAFP Foundation, scholarships will be awarded to students from countries with developing economies,* from outside North America, and from North America. Up to two travel scholarships will be awarded to students attending Minority Serving Institutions (MSI) in North America.*

## Application Deadline: Tuesday, January 19, 2027

### Criteria for Applicants

- Be a Student Member of IAFP
- Be a full-time graduate or undergraduate student
- Demonstrate interest in and commitment to food safety and quality as a student enrolled full-time in a food science, microbiology, toxicology, or other program related to food microbiological or toxicological safety (undergraduate or graduate level) at a college or university at the time of the application deadline
- The online application will require the following information:
    1) In your education, professional or lived experience, what has most influenced your interest in food safety and food protection?
    2) Describe your career aspirations in the food safety/food protection field. How would you like to make an impact in this field?
    3) Describe the potential anticipated outcomes of your food safety research or other projects to which you may have contributed.
    4) Letter of recommendation *(one page maximum)* from faculty member or department head *(cannot be from a current IAFP Board Member)* to include:
        - Outstanding qualifications/contributions made throughout the student's academic career
        - Potential value the student possesses toward making significant future contributions in the food safety profession
    5) Biographical sketch (education, synergistic activities, etc.)

Applications will be disqualified without the above required information.

*Listing of Countries with Developing Economies can be found at:
https://www.foodprotection.org/upl/downloads/library/world-bank-designated-countries.pdf

### Additional Information for Application

- Applicant is not required to present an oral or poster technical paper to qualify for the award.
- Previous recipients of this scholarship are not eligible to apply.

*Questions regarding the reimbursement policy for the IAFP Student Travel Scholarship should be directed to Susan Smith, Awards Coordinator.*

# IAFP Student Travel Scholarship
# Judging Procedure

## Procedure for evaluation of each applicant

This procedure was designed with the intention of providing a matrix to help the award jury select a winner with a relatively equitable, semi-quantitative method. Applicants have been instructed to provide specific information that reflects the expectations and specific intent of the Student Travel Scholarship.

The jury's task is to evaluate the applicant by measuring his or her performance against the listed criteria and applying the 1-10 Rating Scale given below. To obtain each criterion's weighted score, multiply the criterion's % weight (in decimal format) times the score that was assigned from the 1-10 Rating Scale. Applicants should be ranked for each criterion on their own merit and should also be ranked in relation to other nominees. The table provided below should be used to organize the evaluation data. Add the weighted scores in order to obtain the overall ranking of the candidate.

### Rating Scale

| | |
|---|---|
| 9.0 –10.0 | **Outstanding:** performance exceeds *judge's* expectations for criterion |
| 8.0 – 8.9 | **Above average:** performance is above average expectation level for criterion |
| 7.0 – 7.9 | **Average:** performance meets average criterion expectations |
| 6.0 – 6.9 | **Below average:** performance below expectations |
| 5.9 or less | **Unsatisfactory or not applicable:** performance does not meet criterion expectations, or the criterion does not apply to the candidate |

The following is an example of an applicant receiving a perfect score (10 in each criterion).

| **Award Criteria** | **Criterion % Weight (x Factor)** | **Judge's Score** | **Weighted Score** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Requirement 1 | **15 % (0.15)** | **10.0** | **1.5** |
| Requirement 2 | **20 % (0.20)** | **10.0** | **2.0** |
| Requirement 3 | **20 % (0.20)** | **10.0** | **2.0** |
| Letter of recommendation | **20 % (0.20)** | **10.0** | **2.0** |
| Biographical Sketch | **25 % (0.25)** | **10.0** | **2.5** |
| | **100 %** | | **10.0** |

## Rating nominees and determining recipient of the award

These ranking categories should be used by the jury to determine if applicants merit receiving the Student Travel Scholarship. The Student Travel Scholarship recipients will be the highest ranking of all nominees. The ranking should be 8.0 or higher in order to be named as the recipient. However, if no applicant meets this ranking level, judges may present rationale to the committee chair for selecting an applicant whom they feel is a worthy recipient of a Student Travel Scholarship.