The Applied Biodiversity Science (ABS) Program funds small grants to support undergraduate student research in conjunction with ABS graduate students or faculty. Grants will be awarded to ABS Trainees, Associates, and primary faculty members or undergraduate students accepted by an ABS mentor. Funds may be requested to support travel costs in connection with research. Grants are $800 each. The ABS Small Grant Committee will evaluate proposals as received.

*Please e-mail your proposal to Dr. Leslie Ruyle (absigert@tamu.edu) as a pdf file.*

**NOTE:** The Applied Biodiversity Science Program should be acknowledged in abstracts, publications, and posters if a small grant request is funded by any work presented on by the awardees.
The Applied Biodiversity Science (ABS) Program funds small grants to support undergraduate student research in conjunction with ABS graduate students or faculty. Grants will be awarded to ABS Trainees, Associates, and primary ABS faculty members or undergraduate students accepted by an ABS mentor. Funds may be requested to support travel costs, equipment needs, or salaries in connection with research. Grants are $800 each. These grants are intended to build undergraduate involvement in the ABS program by pairing undergraduate students with ABS students and faculty. The ABS Program Small Grant Committee will evaluate proposals as received.

The ABS Program Small Grant Committee judges proposals on a competitive basis. A copy of the proposal should be electronically submitted to the ABS Program Coordinator, Dr. Leslie Ruyle, at absigert@tamu.edu.

The format for the proposal is outlined below. Proposals should not exceed one single spaced page for items 1-5 below.

1. Name of ABS member mentor and title of proposal.

2. Introduction. Provide any background information needed to understand item 3. An applicant should remember that these proposals are reviewed by the ABS Small Grant Committee – which is comprised of faculty that are specialists in very different fields. It is important that proposals communicate the significance of the proposed work in language that is clear to scholars in other specialties besides your own, but still provide enough detail to permit technical evaluation by those more familiar in the area.

3. Statement of the problem. What questions do you plan to address in your research? In part 2 or 3, explain why this particular study is important and why it should be done. Also, describe how an undergraduate researcher fits into your overall project.

4. Research plan/Methodology. What kind of data do you plan to collect and how? How will the undergraduate be involved in the data collection?

5. How will the ABS vision be met by this research experience for the undergraduate?
EVALUATION

The goal of this program is to involve more undergraduate students in the ABS Program while maintaining excellence in ABS research. Among the major points that the Small Grant Committee will consider are the following:

1) **General:** Does the proposal communicate the importance of the work? Have the guidelines above been followed?

2) **Significance:** Is the importance of the project made clear? Is the project appropriate to the ABS vision?

3) **Design:** Are the objectives clearly defined and the central question(s) clearly identified? Is the role of the undergraduate clearly defined?