

tuition allowance not needed (*i.e.*, up to \$12,000 in the case of a total waiver) will be retained by NOAA for future scholarships. No money will be paid directly to the student from the tuition allowance for purposes other than the payment of tuition and fees.

Specific instructions regarding the disbursement, management, and reporting requirements for all stipend and tuition allowance payments will be provided to the scholarship recipients upon selection for the award. The awarding of funds beyond the first year will be based on availability of funds, continued eligibility of the student, periodic certification by the academic institution that adequate academic progress is being made, and compliance with applicable reporting requirements. At its discretion, each academic institution may supplement a scholar's stipend from institutional funds in accordance with the supplementation policy of the institution.

**Matching Requirements:** There are no matching requirements for an award.

**Type of Funding Instrument:** Grant.

**Eligibility Criteria:** Only United States citizens currently pursuing or intending to pursue a masters or doctoral level degree in oceanography, marine biology, or maritime archaeology, including the curation, preservation, and display of maritime artifacts, are eligible for an award under this scholarship program. Prospective scholars do not need to be enrolled, but must be admitted to a graduate-level program in order to apply for this scholarship. Funds will not be released until the applicant provides certification (from the student's institution) supporting the student's acceptance to a graduate program. Studies must be conducted on a full-time basis. Recipients of scholarship awards may be employed at the time of the award if it is a requirement of their degree program or directly related to their research effort. Other forms of employment will not be allowed and scholars will be required to submit a letter certifying that they are in compliance with this requirement. Eligibility must be maintained for each succeeding year of support and annual reporting requirements, to be specified at a later date, will apply.

**Award Period:** This solicitation applies only to applicants whose studies begin in the fall 2003. Stipends will cover a 12 month period. Masters students may be supported for up to two years, and doctoral students for up to four years.

**Indirect Costs:** No indirect costs will be paid on this award.

**Applications:** This notice contains all necessary information and announces a

closing date of March 10, 2003 for the submission of applications. Applications must be received March 10, 2003 no later than 5:00 Eastern Standard Time. Scholarship awards will be announced in July 2003.

**Applications:** Each application must include these following items. Failure to submit these items exactly as described in each section below will disqualify the application from consideration.

(I) General Information Sheet

(II) Statement of Intent

(III) Institute Certification or Letter of Acceptance (for those applicants who are currently enrolled in a graduate program for which support is requested, or who have received acceptance for fall 2003 enrollment in a graduate program for which support is requested)

(IV) Transcripts

(V) Three Letters of Recommendation

(VI) Declaration

### I. General Information Sheet

**Personal Data:** Provide your full name, country of citizenship, current address, permanent address, and home and work telephone numbers. If you can be reached by fax or e-mail, include that information. Optional—for statistical collection purposes only: Indicate your gender, and race or ethnicity.

**Degree Sought:** State your proposed field of study (oceanography, marine biology or maritime archaeology) and degree type you are seeking (*e.g.*, M.S., M.A., Ph.D). Include the month and year you expect the degree to be awarded. State the name and location of your institution.

**Education:** List the academic degrees you have received, or expect to receive by the start of your proposed graduate studies for this program, including the date and institution.

**Statement of Financial Need:** State the estimated amount needed for tuition and fees. List all resources you have available to assist you in your graduate studies (*e.g.*, grants, student loans, scholarships, personal funds). You must be specific. List all resources by date and amount received. Indicate whether the funding source will continue throughout the 2003–2004 school year. Also indicate any work requirements associated with these resources.

### II. Statement of Intent

The Statement of Intent is a self-description of your academic, research, and career goals, and how your proposed course of study or research will help you achieve these goals but more importantly, this is your opportunity to present yourself, your beliefs, and your aspirations. Include any background information you believe

is pertinent, and provide insight into why you have chosen the goals you are pursuing. This statement should not be a research proposal or scientific abstract. This statement will be used to evaluate you as an individual, not necessarily as a scientist, and your motivation for applying for this scholarship. This statement should demonstrate your organizational, analytical, and written communication skills. The Statement of Intent should be typewritten, single-spaced on a blank sheet of paper, and should not exceed one page in length. Statements longer than one page will not be accepted and will result in the application being disqualified.

### III. Institute Certification

A letter from the applicant's institution certifying that the student is enrolled or has been accepted to a graduate program must be submitted with the application. The letter should consist of the following information on school letterhead and be signed by a school official: Name and location of the academic institution, the school and department that you currently are attending or plan to attend, and the month and year your studies will begin if you are not currently enrolled. If you have a graduate advisor, list his/her name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address, if available, in the Institute Certification portion of your application. Current transcripts will not be accepted in lieu of Institute Certification. Failure to include the Institute Certification specifically as indicated above will result in the application being disqualified.

### IV. Transcripts

Provide transcripts for all previous university/college-level studies. Photocopied transcripts are acceptable. Transcripts must be included with all other application materials. Those mailed separately will not be accepted. Failure to include transcripts from all previous university/college-level studies will result in the application being disqualified.

### V. Three Letters of Recommendation

Each application must include three, but only three, signed letters of recommendation from individuals who have knowledge of your academic record, research effort, work and/or life experience. Relevant unpaid work, such as internships and volunteer efforts, is applicable. If you have a sponsor or advisor in the program, one of these letters should be from that individual. Letters of recommendation sent apart