



Environmental Science and Engineering Scholarships Awarded in 2021

Nine environmental science and engineering students received scholarships to study at Ohio colleges and universities this year, through Ohio EPA's Environmental Education Fund.

"We are making an investment in today's environmental scholars to foster stewardship well into the future," said Ohio EPA Director Laurie A. Stevenson.

Students in four-year programs who will receive a \$5,000 scholarship for the 2021-2022 academic year include:

- Nicholas Albert Beltramini, Oberlin College (Environmental Studies), Wrentham, MA
- Julia P. Glenn, University of Cincinnati (Environmental Studies and Urban Studies), Cincinnati
- Blair Jones Hassett, Miami University (Environmental Science, Cincinnati)
- Collin Andrew Lester, Ohio State University (Environmental Engineering), Elyria
- Catherine Rose Oriyo, Ohio State University (Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife), Reynoldsburg
- David M. Orth, University of Cincinnati (Environmental Engineering), Cincinnati
- Mackenzie Alexandra Rutherford, Miami University (Geology and Environmental Earth Science), Eaton
- Nina Savastano, John Carroll University (Environmental Science and Biology), Independence
- Nassar Taleb, Ohio State University (Electrical Engineering), Columbus

This year's candidates have a variety of research and work experience on topics such as:

- Urban ecological restoration
- Disaster recovery and community resilience
- Predicting waves overtopping coastal levees for flood protection systems
- Impact of Lake Erie turbidity on fish predator prey interactions
- Shielding outdoor light fixtures to reduce light pollution
- Detecting Hellbender salamanders and other sensitive species from environmental DNA in streams
- Color morphology distribution of Eastern Screech Owls
- Light detection applications for solar cells and electric aircraft

A total of \$45,000 was awarded this year. Since the scholarship program began in 2000, \$1,009,950 has been awarded statewide to 389 students at 48 Ohio colleges and universities. Funding comes from civil penalties collected by Ohio EPA for violations of air and water pollution control laws. The scholarship program is administered by the Ohio Academy of Science. The next application deadline for scholarships is April 15, 2022. Additional information about the scholarship is available by calling Ohio EPA's Office of Environmental Education at (614) 644-2873 or visiting www.epa.ohio.gov/oeo. To learn more about the Ohio Academy of Science, call (614) 389-2182 or visit www.OHIOSCI.org.