

## **MV Transportation Scholarship 2016-2017**

### **About**

The MV Transportation scholarship supports experiential learning opportunities for KU students. This scholarship is open to all graduate and undergraduate KU students. Students who may be interested in this scholarship include but are not limited to design, social science, engineering, architecture, public administration, urban planning, business, and journalism related majors. You may submit an application for this scholarship as an **individual** OR as a **team**. A **team** is considered a group of 2 or more students who will be collaborating on the project proposed in the scholarship application.

Scholarship recipients are not employees and should not expect future employment as an outcome of this scholarship. The scholarship and contact hours are solely for the learning experience as a part of your KU education.

An information session for students will be held at the Kansas Union in the Kansas Room on September 20, 2016 from 3-4 PM if you have questions about your application. Representatives from MV Transportation, KU on Wheels, and Lawrence Transit will also be available to answer questions.

### **Award**

Up to \$5000 for the best individual or team project proposal. In the event a team project is selected, total award amount will be divided equally between all team members.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

You must be enrolled as degree seeking student (undergraduate or graduate) at the University of Kansas to be eligible for the scholarship. If a team application is submitted, all team members must be degree-seeking students at KU.

### **Applied Research Project Proposal**

As part of the scholarship application, you must submit an applied research project proposal related to transit or public transportation. Projects can come from a variety of disciplines but it is preferable that final projects have the potential to enhance, benefit or otherwise further the advancement of public transportation as it relates to the MV Transportation, KU on Wheels, or the City of Lawrence.

**Applied research uses the theories, knowledge, methods, and/or techniques of a discipline for a specific business or client-driven purpose.**

This type of research is used to answer a specific question or produce a specific product that has direct applications to the world. In this case, the research project should be focused on providing practical solutions/answers to questions, problems, or challenges in transit and public transportation.

## **Scholarship Expectations**

Anyone who receives scholarship funds will be required to meet the follow expectations:

- Work on an applied research project related to transit or public transportation during the 2016-2017 academic year. The project can be part of course/degree requirements (i.e. senior thesis project) or a free-standing project. You may propose projects that are already in progress or that will be started during the award period.
- Complete a minimum of 25 contact hours with representatives from MV Transportation, Lawrence Transit System and/or KU on Wheels. Contact hours can include phone conversations, in-person meetings, etc. with MV Transportation, Lawrence Transit System and/or KU on Wheels staff members.
- Projects can come from a variety of disciplines but it is preferable that final projects have the potential to enhance, benefit or otherwise further the advancement of public transportation as it relates to the MV Transportation, KU on Wheels, or the City of Lawrence.
- It is expected that the proposal will have faculty involvement and endorsement. As part of this, it is expected that a faculty member will guide the project through its completion.
- Publicly present final project and defined deliverables based on project proposal at the end of the Spring 2017. Deliverables can include but are not limited to scale model, project book, data report, material samples, financial model, etc. as appropriate for your project.

## **Application Deadline**

All applications must be submitted by **10 AM CST on Friday, September 30, 2016.**

## **How to Apply**

Individual Application: Students must submit the “Individual Application Form” and KU staff or faculty recommenders must submit the recommender form with recommendation letter. All materials must be submitted via email to [raechel.cook@ku.edu](mailto:raechel.cook@ku.edu) by 10 AM CST on Friday, September 30, 2016.

Team Application: The team of students must submit the “Team Application Form”. Teams only need to submit one recommender form and one letter in support of the proposed project. KU Staff or Faculty recommenders must submit the recommender form with recommendation letter. All materials must be submitted via email to [raechel.cook@ku.edu](mailto:raechel.cook@ku.edu) by 10 AM CST on Friday, September 30, 2016.

## **Selection Process:**

The student(s) will be selected by a committee based on the proposed project; academic merit of the applicant; recommendation from the faculty mentor.

Project proposals will be reviewed in 2 phases:

- Phase 1: The scholarship committee will review written proposals and recommendation from the faculty mentor.
- Phase 2: Based on the written proposal submissions, the committee will select student(s) to interview and present their project proposal(s). The committee will make their final scholarship award decision(s) after the project presentations.

## **Timeline**

Wednesday, September 7: Call for applications open

Thursday, September 20: An information session for students will be held at the Kansas Union in the Kansas Room from 3-4 PM if you have questions about your application. Representatives from MV Transportation, KU on Wheels, and Lawrence Transit will also be available to answer questions.

Friday, September 30 at 10 AM: Application Deadline

Week of October 10: Student interviewee(s) notified by e-mail

Week of November 7: Scholarship recipient(s) notified

## **Questions?**

Questions about the scholarship should be directed to Raechel Cook, Program Coordinator for Experiential Learning, [raechel.cook@ku.edu](mailto:raechel.cook@ku.edu).