

2013 Mississippi Chapter AFS Professional Travel Award Information and Application Instructions

The 2013 Mississippi Chapter AFS (MSAFS) Travel Fund will provide monetary travel awards for deserving fisheries professionals to attend the 2013 American Fisheries Society (AFS) Annual Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas (<http://afs2013.com/>). MS AFS will fund up to ten \$500 awards for working professionals. You must be a parent society member and professional in the State of Mississippi to be considered for the award. Professional applicants must be presenting either an oral presentation or poster, or attending a continuing education workshop. Professionals must be actively employed in an aquatic resources position with a state or federal agency, academia, non-profit organization, or a private firm.

Awardees will be selected by a committee of MSAFS members. Selection will be based on academic qualifications, professional service, and reasons for attending the meeting. Travel support of US\$500 will be made available to selected applicants. The committee can decide that no awards will be approved if appropriate or that up to 10 awards can be divided among the best applicants regardless of application type (student or professional).

2013 Professional Application Instructions

Applications must be received no later than midnight, 31 March 2013 CDT.

Professional applicants are required to 1) complete the professional application form available on the MSAFS website under "Chapter Forms" and 2) submit a letter from the employer/applicant stating that additional meeting costs will be covered by the employer/applicant. These letters may be submitted with the application form or separately.

You will be evaluated based on four criteria: 1) AFS involvement, 2) Professionalism and leadership, 3) Reason to attend the Annual Meeting, and 4) Abstract quality and/or workshop participation. All four criteria are weighted equally. A written signature is not required. Please type your name in the signature line to certify the application. Use the following guidelines when completing the form:

AFS involvement: Describe your involvement in AFS chapters, sections, and divisions. Please indicate the levels of AFS to which you currently belong, the positions you currently hold (committee member, elected position, etc.), and any positions you have held in the past.

Professionalism and leadership: Describe your professionalism and leadership that make you an outstanding candidate for this award. This may include (but is not limited to): presentations and publications, memberships in other societies and/or committees (AFS involvement will be described in the AFS involvement section), manuscript reviews, symposia, awards, and other outreach activities.

Reason to attend: Indicate your reason to attend the AFS Annual Meeting. This may include (but is not limited to) attending a symposium or workshop, presenting a paper or poster, attending a committee or technical meeting, chair session, student paper judge, networking, or other meeting participation. If presenting a paper or poster, include your title, abstract, and authors.

Direct questions and/or send application and letters to: Dr. J. Wesley Neal, Dept. of Wildlife, Fisheries and Aquaculture, Box 9690, Mississippi State, MS 39762, E-mail: jneal@cfr.msstate.edu