The 2020 CalABA Student Research Awards

Application Deadline: January 24, 2020

The California Association for Behavior Analysis (CalABA) sponsors* several awards for graduate student research projects. Four awards of up to \$500 each are available annually. Winners will be notified by email and given their award at the annual CalABA conference.

*These awards will take the place of the Julie Vargas and B.F. Skinner Foundation research awards, as the student awards are now funded directly by CalABA.

Purpose of the Award

- To support and encourage research efforts in behavior analysis among graduate students in California
- To promote Skinnerian science
- To boost the overall quality of academic research in behavior analysis
- To provide recognition for students conducting behavior analytic research

Criteria

- 1. Applicants must be currently attending a graduate-level program in California or be no more than one calendar year past graduation from a graduate-level program in California.
- 2. Applicants must be members of CalABA.
- 3. The proposal must be for a student-driven research project, thesis, or dissertation approved by the student's mentor or department of study.
- 4. Applicants do not have to be or have been in a behavior analysis graduate program, but the research must be behavior analytic in nature. Consideration will be given to submissions that describe research with a focus on observable and measurable behavior (or the products thereof) as the dependent variable and the manipulation of well-defined environmental events as independent variables. Both applied and basic research proposals are encouraged. Applied research proposals should correspond to the guidelines suggested by Baer, Wolf, and Risley (1968, 1987). Basic research proposals should correspond to the criteria set forth in Sidman (1960/1988). Students are encouraged to look to the Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis or the Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior for examples of behavior analytic research.

To apply for the CalABA Student Research Awards, applicants should prepare:

- 1. **Cover Letter** (one page limit) with the student's contact information, where they are attending (or attended) school, their program of study, and what they intend to do with the award (budget not required). Preference will be given to projects whose funds go directly to purchase or reimburse costs associated with the project.
- 2. Curriculum Vitae
- 3. **Abstract** (500 words or fewer) outlining the research project.
- 4. **Introduction and Literature Review** (two page limit) indicating why this research is important, how it relates to Baer et al. (1968, 1987) or Sidman (1960/1988), some supporting literature, and the research question.

- 5. **Methods Section** (three page limit) indicating the design (ABAB, multiple baseline, etc.), the number of participants, participant recruitment methods, the general timeline of the research, and an overview of the procedures that will be (or were) used. Exact details are not needed, but the reviewers should be able to determine the feasibility of the study if it has yet to be completed and whether the methods adequately address the research question.
- 6. **Results and Discussion** (three page limit) including figures that depict hypothetical results and discussion if it is for a proposed study, and sample of results and discussion of implications of these findings if a completed study.
- 7. **Reference Section** listing all references cited.
- 8. **Letter of Support** (PDF signed and on letterhead) from a supervising faculty. The letter should attest to the fact that the research is approved by the faculty member and/or committee, is replicating/expanding knowledge in the field of behavior analysis, and verify the student's status.

Submission Procedures

- 1. Complete the online application here.
- 2. The materials, including the cover letter, curriculum vitae, abstract, introduction/lit review, methods, results and discussion, and references should be converted into a single PDF and uploaded through the online application.
- 3. The entire PDF should not exceed 15 pages, including the reference section and figures.
- 4. The abstract, introduction/lit review, methods, results and discussion, and reference sections must be in APA format, double-spaced, and 12-point font with margins set at 1 inch.
- 5. The faculty letter of support should be emailed, from the supporting professor's email address, to: academicliaisonscalaba@gmail.com.