

**MARS & AEOLIAN STUDENT & EARLY CAREER TRAVEL GRANT Information**  
**6th International Planetary Dunes Workshop – May 12-15, 2020 – Alamosa, CO, USA**

**Deadline: 5pm CST March 5, 2020** (a *submitted abstract* is required with the applicant listed as lead-author)

Travel funding has been made available for U.S. undergraduate and graduate students and early career professionals to attend the **6th International Planetary Dunes Workshop** (<https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/dunes2020/>) to be held May 12-15, 2020, in Alamosa, CO, USA.

- The NASA Mars Program Office (MPO) offers travel funding awards for up to 3 U.S. undergraduate and graduate students. NASA Headquarters will make the selections.
- The U.S Geological Survey (USGS), with funding support from NASA Solar System Workings program, offers travel funding awards for up to 7 U.S. undergraduate and graduate students, as well as select early career professionals. The Dunes2020 science organizing committee will make the selections.

**To be considered for either of these awards, submit an application form and a first-author abstract by the deadline noted above.** Note that the same form can be used as application to one or both programs; each awardee will receive only one award. We expect to notify awardees by the end of March.

For both programs: For each awardee, travel costs up to **\$1200.00** will be reimbursed according to JPL/USGS/government-specified allowances, following conclusion of the workshop. Reimbursable costs include transportation (e.g., airfare, mileage to/from airport, parking, rental car or rides), workshop registration, and lodging/per diem. Note that in most cases, actual expenses will exceed the funding provided. For reference, lodging/per diem rates can be found at [www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov) and generally flights are required to be on US-carriers.

*Note:* Students who are depending on travel assistance should not make travel arrangements or pay the registration fee until they have been notified that they have received an award. If you are requesting funds to travel to the conference from outside the U.S., you should also wait until you have successfully completed NASA's foreign travel approval process. Failure to comply with this requirement may prohibit reimbursement.

**Eligibility**

- Applicant must be at a U.S. citizen, legal resident, or attending/working at a U.S. institution on a valid visa.
- Applicant must be over 18 years of age.
- If a student, you must be enrolled at a university at the time of the conference or the semester immediately before the conference (if during break). If an early career professional, you must be within 10 years of your terminal degree and not currently a student.
- Applicant must submit a (1) completed **application form** and (2) forwarded **copy of the email confirmation** for your submitted first-author abstract to Dr. Serina Diniega ([serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov)) by the deadline.

In addition to the above:

- **For the MPO awards:** Applicant must be an undergraduate or graduate student engaged in Mars-related research relevant to this workshop. Questions about this program should be directed to Dr. Serina Diniega ([serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov)).

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- **For the USGS awards:** Applicant must be an undergraduate or graduate student or early career professional engaged in planetary aeolian-related research (on/of any Solar System body including the Earth, and dryland/subaerial or subaqueous) relevant to this workshop. Questions about this program should be directed to Dr. Timothy Titus ([ttitus@usgs.gov](mailto:ttitus@usgs.gov)).

**Instructions**

1. Please fill out the application online at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPPxxM4ltnykK1CpsXXzCDij\\_3g7Jx4\\_KZ-8sto4W\\_bZLD4g/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfPPxxM4ltnykK1CpsXXzCDij_3g7Jx4_KZ-8sto4W_bZLD4g/viewform)  
Note that if you submit more than one form (before the deadline), the one with the latest timestamp will be used as your final submission.
2. Forward a copy of the emailed confirmation for your abstract submission to Dr. Serina Diniega ([serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:serina.diniega@jpl.nasa.gov)) by the application deadline.

The application will ask:

- Full name
- U.S. Citizen? *If no, indicate status in the US (including visa type, country of citizenship, etc.).*
- Your contact information: Email, Phone (day)

**If student:**

- University, Department, Degree/year expected (e.g., PhD 2022 Geology)
- Advisor name
- Thesis title (can be tentative - the aim is to (concisely) identify what you are working on)

**If early career professional:**

- University, Department, Degree/year attained (e.g., PhD 2016 Geology)
- Current workplace/position (e.g., JPL science systems engineer)
- Year started at current workplace

1. What is your research topic?
- 2a. How is your research relevant to the Mars Exploration Program? (i.e., how does your research contribute towards Planetary Science Decadal Survey Goals, MEPAG Goals, specific missions, etc.) ← answer this question to apply for the **MPO award** (you can apply to both programs by filling out both questions)
- 2b. How is your research relevant to the studies of planetary aeolian science? ← answer this question to apply for the **USGS award** (you can apply to both programs by filling out both questions)
3. How would attending this conference benefit your research and planned future career?

In answering the questions: Use as much space as seems necessary, but brevity is appreciated; most students provide ~1 paragraph per answer. Note that answers to some of the questions can very easily sound the same between applications; being specific can help you stand out.