

Biological Sciences

Beth Baird Scholar Application

2008-2009 academic year, application deadline: **March 11, 2009**; Return to Graduate Secretary, 127 Biology

Basic Information (all fields required):

Name: _____ Student ID#: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Eaglemail address: _____

(NOTE: Only Eaglemail addr. will be used for official e-mail correspondence)

Program: _____ Degree: _____ Semester and year initiated: _____
 (Biol, Biochem, Mol Bio, Env Sci) (MA, MS, PhD) (Spring/Summer/Fall, 200X)

Major Supervisor: _____

GRE V: _____ GRE Q: _____
 Please provide numeric and percentile scores

TOEFL: _____
 If applicable, indicated computer or paper based

Current GPA: _____ Previous degrees obtained and GPA: _____

Current degree requirements completed/filed (N/A or semester/year): _____ Advisory committee: _____

Degree plan: _____ Research proposal: _____ Candidacy exams: _____

Other awards/scholarships pending or received:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

To be considered for Beth Baird Scholarships, submit the following materials **in addition** to this form:

1. A letter of recommendation from your major advisor (or prospective major advisor).
2. Two letters of recommendation from other professionals familiar with your scholastic abilities, including at least one committee member if your advisory committee is formed.
3. If you have held a Teaching Assistantship, complete **Section I** of the attached TA recommendation form and ask your laboratory coordinator to complete the form.
4. A personal letter stating your career goals and why you feel you should be a Beth Baird Scholar.
5. An up-to-date *curriculum vitae*.
6. Official transcripts of current and most recent previous degree.

Note: Prospective Beth Baird Scholars are encouraged to review the **Mission Statement and Selection Criteria for Beth Baird Scholars** (attached).

I authorize the Dept. of Biological Sciences to include me as a prospective Beth Baird Scholar. I have included all of the required materials for my application. I understand that incomplete applications will not be considered. I understand that it is my responsibility to ensure that the application packet is complete.

 Name

 Date

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date received: _____ Personal Letter ____; Transcripts: ____ Recommendations: Advisor ____; Others ____, ____ TA ____
 Meets specific scholarship requirements: 1. __ 2. __ 3. __ 4. __ Notes:

Mission Statement and Selection Criteria for Beth Baird Scholars

Beth Baird Scholarships are intended to **attract** and **retain** outstanding graduate students to enhance scholarly activity within the Department of Biological Sciences. Recipients of a Beth Baird Scholarship are Beth Baird Scholars. Beth Baird Scholars embody the mission of the Department of Biological Sciences¹, and that of the University of North Texas² as a student-centered public research university.

Based on these guiding principles, Beth Baird Scholars are selected on the basis of

Research potential and achievement
Academic potential and achievement
Potential and achievement in professional communication and service

Beth Baird scholarships offer financial support for two or four years to students entering a MSc. and PhD., respectively, with a possible one-year extension. Renewal of funding is contingent on maintaining full-time status, academic excellence, making satisfactory progress toward degree completion (for guidelines refer to Graduate Student Catalog, Biology, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Environmental Science Degree Requirements and Procedures; <http://www.unt.edu/catalog/grad/biol.htm>), research productivity, and outreach activities. Existing UNT students are eligible for prorated funding based on the numbers of years enrolled (*i.e.*, a PhD student with one year completed is eligible for three years of funding, etc). A student may be a Beth Baird Scholar for a maximum of five years.

Beth Baird Scholarships may be used for tuition or salary support, at the discretion of the recipient in consultation with the student's major advisor. Beth Baird Scholarships provide two levels of support, \$5000.00 and \$10,000.00 per year, depending on qualifications. Beth Baird Scholarships may be used to bring University-administered student support (TAs, RAs, University-administered scholarships, etc) to a maximum of 25% above three semester's worth of stage-appropriate funding. Scholarships are awarded through the Department of Biological Sciences Graduate Student Scholarship Committee with final approval from the Department Chair.

¹ The Department of Biological Sciences promotes the discovery, advancement, and dissemination of basic and applied knowledge in the life and environment sciences by providing quality undergraduate and graduate education; conducting traditional, multidisciplinary research; supporting science education awareness outreach activities; and providing professional expertise and service to local, state and national constituencies.

² The University of North Texas is a recognized student-centered public research university where we harness the power of ideas through a culture of learning based on diverse viewpoints, interdisciplinary endeavors, creativity and disciplined excellence. This is accomplished through a broad and balanced array of programs where well-prepared students and dedicated scholars and artists collaborate with our local and global communities in the creation, integration, application and dissemination of knowledge. In this way, UNT creates an enriched and sustainable future for our students, state, nation and world (Approved by Board of Regents May 12, 2006)

Laboratory Coordinator Universal Recommendation Letter for Prospective Baird Scholars**Section I: To be completed by the applicant**

NAME: _____ Student # _____ Eaglemail Acct: _____

1) 1st Course # _____ Number of Semesters as TA in this course: _____2) 2nd Course # (if appl.): _____ Number of Semesters as TA in this course: _____3) 3rd Course # (if appl.): _____ Number of Semesters as TA in this course: _____**Section II: To be completed by the Laboratory Coordinator**

NAME: _____ Course #: _____

I have coordinated labs for the applicant for _____ semesters (including the current semester).

My confidence in ranking this applicant is (circle one) very high, high, reasonable, poor.

Student evaluations of this applicant (list evaluation scores for each semester or N/A): _____

Please check the box(es) which most accurately describe the above candidate

QUALITIES:	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent	Have Not Observed
Dependability, reliability					
Preparedness					
Knowledge of subject					
Lectures at appropriate level					
Rapport with students					
General communication skills					
Works well with others					
Overall ranking as a TA					

I have coordinated approximately _____ TAs over _____ years.

Overall, as a TA, I would rank this candidate in among the top _____ percent.

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS (Please elaborate on the above characteristics; include a separate sheet/letter if desired):

Signature: _____ Date: _____