



2021 Application Guidelines

Application deadline is 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time, March 1, 2021

Name of the Award

Les Lavkulich Graduate Student Award in Soil Science (One \$5,000 award per year as a student stipend)

Eligibility

- Open to Canadian Citizens, Permanent Residents in Canada, and International students
- Candidate must be registered full-time in a graduate program at any British Columbia post-secondary institution in the area of soil science (agriculture, agroecology, forestry, resource management, environmental science, geology, geography or other related disciplines)
- Candidate must have taken or be taking at least one course in soil science
- Candidate must be enrolled for at least one full semester, after the award is given, to conduct the research
- Previous recipients of the award are not eligible for subsequent awards

Detailed Description of the Selection Criteria (Maximum possible points: 100)

Selection of the awardee will be based entirely on the information provided as part of the application. The applications will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Academic Achievement and Area of Study (30 points total)

- Academic Grades, Honours, and Awards *(20 points maximum)*
- Explain how previous coursework and academic/research experiences will support the implementation of the proposed research and are directly related to soil science or the related sciences *(10 points maximum)*

Research Proposal (35 points total)

- Clear research proposal with a description of the research objectives and methods *(15 points maximum)*
- Explain how the proposed research is relevant to the field of soil science *(10 points maximum)*
- Significance of the research in terms of the advancement or application of soil science *(10 points maximum)*

Community Service and Leadership (15 points total)

- Activities that demonstrate community involvement and leadership. Explain the relevance of the activities to the applicant's personal development and future career interests *(10 points maximum)*
- Relevance of the activities to soil science and how these experiences may help the implementation of the proposed research *(5 points maximum)*

Communication Skills (10 points total)

- Application is well articulated, free of grammatical errors, concise, and clearly addresses the selection criteria. Evidence of communication through presentations, articles, and reports as listed in CV *(10 points maximum)*

Letters of Recommendation (10 points total)

- Up to 2 letters of recommendation can be provided *(10 points maximum)*

Deliverables

The award recipient will provide a detailed project report (10 pages maximum) outlining the findings of the research and it must be submitted within 12 months from the commencement of the award. The report should be of sufficient quality and suitability for distribution via PRSSS website and newsletters.

How to Apply

Email your application to prsssawards@gmail.com with the subject line ‘Application for Les Lavkulich Award – (your first & last name)’. The email should include all of the following:

1. In the body of the email, state how you meet the following eligibility requirement:
 - Soil Science Course Requirement: List the course name of the soil science course that you have taken (only one course required). If the soil content is not apparent by the course name, include a maximum 200 word summary of how this course meets the soil course requirement.
2. A letter from the university confirming enrolment in your current program (Proof of Enrolment Letter) attached as a PDF. Name the PDF file as ‘Enrolment_Proof_(your first & last name)’
3. Your application package, attached as a single PDF file. Name the PDF file as ‘Les_Lavkulich_Award_(your first & last name)’. The application package should include:
 - 1-2 page (maximum) research proposal that describes the research that will be undertaken or currently being conducted. Include a description of the research objectives and methods, how the proposed research is relevant to the field of soil science, and the significance of the research in terms of the advancement or application of soil science.
 - A half-page (maximum) description of the how the applicant’s previous and future coursework and academic/research/work experiences are directly related to soil science or the related sciences.
 - A half-page (maximum) description of the leadership and community services.
 - Unofficial transcripts showing grades of all the current and previous undergraduate courses.
 - CV (maximum 3 pages) listing educational and work experience, publications (if any), honours and awards.

Formatting: 12 point, Times New Roman font, 1.5 line spacing, and 2.54 cm margins must be used

4. Reference letter(s) should be emailed directly by the referee(s) to prsssawards@gmail.com

Application deadline: March 1, 2021

(All application materials including the reference letter(s) must be received by 11:59 p.m. Pacific time)