

American Fisheries Society (AFS) Tidewater Chapter
Eileen Setzler-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship
Application Form and Instructions

This scholarship is awarded to an outstanding *graduate* student in the AFS Tidewater geographic area (NC, VA, MD) who is currently enrolled and has displayed a commitment to excellence in public service and outreach, in addition to their research endeavors. The scholarship was created in 2003 to remember Dr. Eileen Setzler-Hamilton, long-time member of the American Fisheries Society and fourth president (1989) of the Tidewater Chapter. The award carries a \$800 cash prize and will be presented at the annual meeting of the Chapter being held March 19-21, 2026, in Solomons, Maryland.

The application package should include four (4) items:

1. A curriculum vitae (CV) or resume. Please highlight presentations (oral or poster) made at scientific meetings, as well as publications in peer-reviewed journals, if any. Useful information also would be any research or teaching assistantships and involvement in professional societies and extracurricular activities. In listing your degrees, please include your GPA (but do not include transcripts). (2-page limit)
2. A summary of your graduate research. If you are early on in your research, describe proposed field and laboratory work, otherwise describe the information already gathered and analytical approach. Most important is a clear statement of your hypotheses and research objectives, as well as broader natural resource and societal impacts. (1-page limit)
3. A description of your other professional endeavors. Have you been involved with the American Fisheries Society, the Tidewater Chapter, and/or other scientific organizations? Let us know if and how. Please detail any public education and outreach, as well as community service activities. (1-page limit)
4. Two recommendation letters. One letter should come from a faculty adviser or graduate committee member who can speak to your scholarly aptitude, while the second can be from any person, such as a faculty member, community leader, or fellow student, who can speak to your public service. (1-page limit each letter)

Kindly use 12-point font or larger, and no less than single-spacing and one-inch margins. The first three items should come together as one PDF file.

When emailing the application items 1-3 above, please also provide answers to the following questions within the body of the email:

Name

University affiliation

Email and phone

Degree being pursued

Enrollment date

Expected graduation date

Are you an American Fisheries Society member?

Are you a Tidewater Chapter member? (Preference is given to current members in case of ties.)

Application materials should be emailed to Sara Mirabilio, chair, Awards and Scholarship Committee, at semirabi@ncsu.edu. **The deadline for receipt of all materials is 9 AM EST on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026.** Late applications, including late letters of reference, will not be considered.