



February 21, 2019

From: Heather Lowers, Chair, Paul Carpenter, ECS Awards, MAS QMA 2019 Topical Conference

To: MAS Early Career Scholar candidates and advisors

Dear young scientist,

It is our pleasure to inform you of the Microanalysis Society (MAS) Early Career Scholar (ECS) financial award program which will provide financial support to attend the MAS topical conference (TC) on quantitative microanalysis, *QMA 2019*.

***QMA 2019* will be held June 24-27, 2019 at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA.**

The scientific focus of *QMA 2019* is quantitative microanalysis using electron-probe microanalysis, scanning electron microscopy, with an educational focus on microanalysis. The TC will be a plenary meeting with user meetings on Monday June 24, followed by three days of technical talks, and will include tutorials on microanalysis by EPMA-WDS and SEM-EDS, invited talks by leaders in the field of microanalysis, group sessions, laboratory remote demonstrations, poster sessions, and group meals.

Full details on the *QMA 2019* TC can be found on the MAS website:

QMA 2019 web page: <https://the-mas.org/events/topical-conferences/qma-2019/>

The ECS support program provides for co-sponsorship funding between the sponsoring agency (e.g., your university advisor, industry supervisor, or a local MAS Affiliated Regional Society), and MAS through the planning group for *QMA 2019* TC. The details of the ECS support program are as follows:

- Eligible ECS include undergraduate, graduate, post-doctoral, and early career professional scientists who are within two years of their last degree.
- The ECS support program is for USA citizens at domestic institutions. Foreign nationals at domestic institutions may be supported subject to additional requirements.
- ECS candidates should be identified and proposed to us by their sponsor. This may be accomplished using normal selection process by university advisor, industry supervisor, or local MAS societies. For example, presentations and local competitions may be used to select candidates for proposal to us.
- An email letter of support is required which includes confirmation that the ECS candidate has co-sponsorship financial support from their sponsoring agency. The example email letter provided at the end of this document can be used for this purpose.
- The *QMA 2019* planning group will receive the proposed candidates for review. Priority will be given to candidates that have financial sponsorship from their supporting agency

and who have submitted an abstract to *QMA 2019* for either platform or poster presentation. Consideration for those without sponsorship and who have a financial need will be made based on available funding.

- **ECS awardees will present their research in a 15 minute platform presentation. An abstract using the Microscopy & Microanalysis paper format is due by March 15, 2019.** The abstract template is available on the *QMA 2019* web page, linked above.
- *ECS awardees will receive a maximum of \$750 in reimbursement for expenses which may include travel, lodging, and registration for QMA 2019.* Receipts must be submitted to the MAS treasurer at *QMA 2019* for reimbursement after the conference. Further details regarding covered expenses will be made upon awardee selection.
- The *QMA 2019* registration for ECS is \$100 and will be paid by the ECS attendee.

ECS awardees will stay at the University of Minnesota campus dormitory. Further information will appear on the MAS website in fall 2018.

Our young scientist community is very important, and we want to enable ECS candidates to attend *QMA 2019*. Please contact me (hlowers@usgs.gov) or Paul Carpenter (paul.carpenter.epma@gmail.com) for additional information. We look forward to seeing you in Minneapolis!

Sincerely,



Heather Lowers
MAS QMA 2019 Organizing Committee

Example email which can be used to propose an ECS candidate to QMA 2019

Send to:

hlowers@usgs.gov

Paul.carpenter.epma@gmail.com

Subject: QMA 2019 ECS candidate <enter name here>

To QMA 2019 ECS award committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to propose an Early Career Scholar (ECS) candidate for consideration of financial award to attend the MAS QMA 2019 Topical Conference to be held June 24-27, 2019, at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN campus.

I/we propose as a candidate <enter name here>, who is currently a <undergraduate, graduate, post-doc, early career employee (less than 2 years since last degree)> at <location>.

I/we confirm that this candidate will be provided with financial support to enable their attendance at QMA 2019 for all costs in excess of those reimbursed by MAS. I understand that a maximum of \$750 will be provided to the ECS awardees in reimbursement for travel and lodging upon presentation of receipts to the MAS treasurer at QMA 2019.

An ECS awardee is expected to submit a two-page abstract as used for the Microscopy & Microanalysis annual meeting. Either a platform or poster presentation will be given at QMA 2019. See the QMA 2019 web page for further information on abstract format.

Sincerely,

<sponsor name>

<institution>

<phone number>

<email>