

THE WOODWELL CLIMATE RESEARCH CENTER JOHN SCHADE MEMORIAL FUND APPLICATION

About

The John Schade Memorial Fund is dedicated to Dr. John D. Schade. Dr. Schade passed away on March 26, 2021 after a long and distinguished career in research and education. John was passionate about educating the next generation of scientists, and was the heart of Woodwell's Polaris Project, which integrates Arctic research and undergraduate education. The purpose of this fund is to support and invest in the next generation of changemakers - Polaris alumni and their mentees, who are making a lifelong career and personal commitment to activities that reflect and demonstrate Dr. Schade's values. This may include but is not limited to: mentoring, education, leadership, equity in the sciences (and/or other professions), advancing Arctic and environmental science to mitigate climate change (and/or other modes of pathways for addressing climate change), and career advancement of students.

The John Schade Memorial Fund will award \$5,000 each to two applicants per year who are Polaris Project alumni or their mentees. If you have any questions please reach out to: ngolden@woodwellclimate.org

Eligibility Requirements

The fund is open to any previous Polaris Project participant or someone nominated by and mentored by a Polaris alumni. While we do not require applicants to demonstrate financial need as part of the application process, we would like to prioritize funding for applicants with financial need. Thus, in the spirit of solidarity and reciprocity, prospective applicants with access to other sources of financial support should consider not applying.

Guidelines and Deadlines

Criteria for Selection

Applications are specifically reviewed for the following:

- Demonstration of how your experience as a Polaris Project participant (or mentee of an alumni) has influenced the type of impact you wish to have on society.
- Significance this fund will have on your ability to achieve that impact.
- Why the work you are doing/wish to do matters to you and to whom your work is important.

Application Submission and Notification Dates

Completed applications are due by **October 27th, 2023**. Notifications will be made by **November 17th**, and funding will be disbursed by December 1st.

How to Apply

All students applying for the John Schade Fund must submit all application materials in one electronic document in Adobe PDF. The following materials are required to be submitted to (ngolden@woodwellclimate.org):

- **Two written prompts.** These short prompts are a critical component of the screening process. It is an opportunity for you to reflect on and contextualize how your experience as a participant of The Polaris Project or a mentee of a Polaris alumni has influenced the type of impact (e.g., intended course of study/research, professional position, leadership role, etc.) you wish to have on society, and the significance this fund will have on your ability to achieve that impact. In other words, how do you plan to use your experience with or participation in The Polaris Project for impact, and how will this fund help you? Please also provide a general statement on how you intend to use the fund. You may also wish to describe any personal and professional challenges you have overcome to achieve your goals. Each written prompt is limited to 500 words. Both questions must be answered completely. (This equates to approximately 1 page, single spaced, at 12 point font)
- **One professional letter of recommendation.** Recommendation letters can be from your academic advisors, supervisors or close colleagues who know you and your work well as we ask recommenders to relay specific information and examples of your work. If you are the mentee of a Polaris alumni applying for the fund, your letter of recommendation should come from your Polaris Project alumni mentor. *Only one letter of recommendation may be submitted and should be submitted in Adobe PDF format to ngolden@woodwellclimate.org.*
- **A current CV**, including experiences relevant to the type of impact you wish to have on society.

Open-Ended Response and Essay Questions

1. How has your experience with The Polaris Project shaped your pursuit for your intended course of study? Or, how has your interactions/experience with a Polaris alumni shaped your pursuit of your intended course of study? (300-500 words)

2. What impact would this fund have on your professional development or career goals? (300-500 words)