

## Benioff Scholars Program in Applied Environmental Science



### Application Instructions and Eligibility

February 2026

#### Goals and Basic Requirements

The Benioff Ocean Science Laboratory will offer **up to ten \$6,000 grants** to graduate students (current & incoming) at UC Santa Barbara whose research advances applied environmental science. This includes research in the natural sciences, social sciences, physical sciences, engineering, law, medicine or a related field that has promise to provide near-term solutions for solving pressing threats to environmental health. Applications for the grants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Applicant's prior demonstrated excellence in academic or professional practice
2. The potential value of the proposed research for creating or applying solutions to a threat of immediate concern for the environment
3. Expressed support from your UCSB advisor
4. Contribution to diversity in the environmental and/or marine sciences

#### Project Proposal

For full consideration, applicants must complete the Benioff Scholars Program in Applied Environmental Science [application form](#) and attach a brief proposal. The proposal should be no more than 3 pages (not including references) and include the following:

1. A brief (1-2 paragraph) abstract that explicitly states how the research funded will translate into near-term action for environmental conservation
2. A full description of the research project explaining its scientific and environmental merit
3. A description of the applicant's prior research and how it relates to or informs the new work proposed here
4. A brief budget for the anticipated use of grant funds, plus a list and description of your other funding sources related to this research.

## Benioff Scholars Program in Applied Environmental Science



### Eligibility

Graduate student applicants must be UCSB affiliated (incoming & current students) and in good standing for the duration of the period to be funded. Both PhD and Masters students are eligible. The program is open to students from all departments and seeks to fund students from a wide range of departments. Previous recipients are not eligible to apply.

Inclusion is a key priority at the Benioff Ocean Science Laboratory and we are committed to creating a program that is representative of all people. As part of the application process, we ask about applicants' demographics. Please share as much or as little as you feel comfortable. Preference will be given to those who:

- Have experienced financial, cultural, or other barriers
- Will broaden diversity of underrepresented groups in the environmental and/or marine science community

### Funding and Reporting Requirements

The funding must be used while you are still an affiliated student of UCSB . There are no restrictions on use of the funding as long as it is fully described in the budget. Grant recipients will be asked to submit a final report 9 months after the receipt of funds.

To apply, complete the [application form](#) and upload or email all necessary documents. Applications and a letter of recommendation from the graduate student's advisor must be submitted **by 11:59pm (PDT) on Sunday, March 15** to be considered. **Advisors should send their letters separately to [bosl-contact@ucsb.edu](mailto:bosl-contact@ucsb.edu) with BENIOFF SCHOLARS PROGRAM REFERENCE - [GRAD LAST NAME] in the subject line of the email.**

For more information or questions, please contact [bosl-contact@ucsb.edu](mailto:bosl-contact@ucsb.edu).