

American Avalanche Association Practitioner Research Grants

The American Avalanche Association (AAA) awards research grants to avalanche field practitioners conducting research on snow avalanches. Successful applicants must be a Professional Member or Member Affiliate of AAA or a Professional Member of the Canadian Avalanche Association (CAA). Preference will be given to proposals whose results will benefit avalanche field practitioners or will extend our understanding of snow and avalanche phenomena. Proposals should embody the theme of the International Snow Science Workshop (ISSW), an international meeting of snow scientists and avalanche practitioners, "A merging of theory and practice". The AAA has allocated \$1000 a year to this program, which will be used to fund at most two proposals annually. Members who are enrolled in an academic institution are not eligible for these funds, but are encouraged to apply to the Graduate Research Grant program.

Grant applications should include a proposal of no more than two printed pages of 11-point font with reasonable margins. Literature references, figures, and budget do not count toward the two pages. Letters of support from two Professional Members of the AAA or the CAA must be sent separately to the Executive Director. Applicants must list all additional sources of current and pending support for their projects. An awarded research grant is intended to enhance or boost a research project in its infancy. Fundable expenses include but are not limited to instrumentation and field equipment. Salary is not an appropriate expense for this program. Applications are accepted each spring and must arrive by March 1 to be eligible.

Applicants are encouraged to consult a Scientific Partner while writing a proposal and conducting the research. A Scientific Partner should be someone with previous research experience. Partnership is not required, but interested applicants can contact the Research Committee for help finding a Scientific Partner who has experience with similar research topics.

Successful applicants are expected to write a final report summarizing their research as well as an article for *The Avalanche Review*. Research results should also be presented at an ISSW. The AAA should be acknowledged in all publications and presentations made based on the funded research.

Grant Evaluation

- Each proposal will be evaluated by at least three independent reviewers. The reviewer's qualifications will include:
 - Professional Membership in the American Avalanche Association
 - Active researcher or field practitioner in a snow or avalanche program.
- In order of significance, preference will be given to:
 - Projects that embody the spirit of the ISSW, "a merging of theory and practice".
 - Projects using creative solutions to practical problems.

- Projects that utilize an appropriate Scientific Partner
- Projects that are not already funded.
- Projects where the applicant can demonstrate an ability to use AAA money to leverage additional funds or that can be completed on a limited budget.