

Dear New England ACSM Member:

The New England Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine is proud to announce that applications for the **2026 Undergraduate Research Experience Grants** are now being accepted. **Applications will be accepted until Friday, March 27th, 2026.** This scholarship is designed to highlight professional and academic excellence in undergraduate students attending non-R1: Doctoral Universities institutions in the New England states that have a strong emphasis on teaching but often lack the resources to support research activities. The scholarship can be used to either help fund research or offset the expenses associated with presenting the research at the NEACSM Annual Fall Meeting. Scholarship funds designated towards the research process must support student-engaged work. Please encourage students at your institution to apply for this grant.

The criteria for this grant are outlined in the attached document. Grant winners will receive an award of \$1000 in June 2026 and be recognized at the NEACSM Annual Fall Meeting in October 2026. Grant recipients are required to present the outcomes of their research experience at a NEACSM meeting.

Please note that all applications must be accompanied by the NEACSM cover sheet and be received at the NEACSM Office via e-mail by Friday, March 27th, 2026. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered (this includes the letter of support provided by the faculty research advisor). Applications may also be obtained at the NEACSM website: www.neacsm.org/awards.

Sincerely,

Jonatha J. Nardi., Ph.D., CEP., CSCS., EIMIII
Nicholas SantaBarbara., Ph.D., CSCS
Scholarship/Awards Committee Co-Chairs

ACSM New England Chapter

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE GRANT

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This grant requires the applicant to:

- be a current NEACSM member (it is expected that applicants go to the Member Portal on the ACSM website and verify that their New England Chapter membership is current upon application submission);
- be enrolled at an accredited college/university within the New England region that is not categorized as an R1: Doctoral Universities institution*;
- major in the areas of applied/basic/clinical exercise science or sports medicine; and
- demonstrate academic excellence with a minimum GPA of 3.3 (on a 4.0 GPA scale) in all undergraduate coursework.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

Questions should be directed to:

Jonathan J. Nardi., Ph.D., CEP., CSCS., EIMIII Nicholas SantaBarbara., Ph.D., CSCS

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Phone: 978-837-5716

E-mail: jonathannardi@usj.edu

E-mail: santabarbar@merrimack.edu

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND/OR APPLICATION MATERIALS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM:

NEACSM Office

Email: neacsm1@gmail.com

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Application materials should be sent via email to neacsm1@gmail.com by Friday, March 27, 2026.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GRANT AWARDS

Undergraduate Research Grant Experience award recipients will receive their grants in June 2026 and be recognized at the NEACSM Annual Fall Meeting in October 2026.

*The universities in the R1: Doctoral Universities category are based on the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. For a list of institutions from which students are eligible to apply for the Undergraduate Research Experience Grant, see the last page of this application packet.

ACSM New England Chapter

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE GRANT

NEACSM Undergraduate Research Experience Grants support students at underrepresented institutions with research in the exercise and sport sciences. The intent of these awards is to encourage research on the undergraduate level for students at institutions that have strong emphasis on teaching but often lack resources to support research activities. The awards encourage and promote the research experience itself, with less focus on the scope of the project. Eligible students must currently be enrolled at a non-R1: Doctoral Universities institution within the New England region. The call for proposals will be made once annually, and applications will be accepted for consideration by the NEACSM Scholarship and Awards Committee. Up to three grants (\$1,000 each) will be awarded. Grant recipients are **REQUIRED** to present their research experience outcomes at an NEACSM Fall Meeting and maintain NEACSM membership through the time of presentation.

All proposals must include the following and be received by Friday, March 27, 2026, for full consideration:

1. **NEACSM Cover Sheet.** Current NEACSM membership through March 27, 2026, is required.
 - Important: NEACSM membership is separate from National ACSM membership. Verify the status of your NEACSM membership by logging into your ACSM profile at acsm.org, scrolling down to the “Access Your Information” section, and selecting “View My Memberships.”
2. **Cover Letter** (one page) to include:
 - a. Project title and the applicant’s name and contact information.
 - b. Faculty research advisor’s name and contact information; and,
 - c. Narrative statement of how this project will benefit the student in terms of learning about the research process and the field of exercise and sports science/sports medicine.
3. **Curriculum Vitae.**
4. **Official Transcripts** for all undergraduate coursework.
5. **Research Plan** (up to six pages; tables/figures may be included) to include:
 - a. Specific Aims and Research Hypotheses (not to exceed ½ page).
 - b. Background (literature review) and Significance (not to exceed two pages).
 - c. Study Design (not to exceed ½ page).
 - d. Study Site and Participants (one paragraph).
 - e. Protocol (Study Measures, Instruments, Data Collection and Analysis, Timetable; not to exceed two pages); and,
 - f. References (not included in six-page limit)
6. **Budget** (one page) to include:
 - a. Equipment/supplies.
 - b. NEACSM conference attendance (registration fee, travel, lodging); and,
 - c. Other miscellaneous funds used to support the research experience.
7. **Letter of Support** from the faculty research advisor. Note: Because the intent of this grant is to promote **independent** undergraduate student research, this letter must address the level of assistance that will be provided to the student in designing, conducting, and completing the research experience.

NEACSM COVER SHEET

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE GRANT

Applicant's Name: _____	
Street Address: _____	
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	
Phone: _____	
E-mail: _____	
Is the applicant a member of NEACSM? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
College/University: _____	
Academic Year: _____	GPA: _____
Area of Study: _____	Advisor: _____
List previous national and regional ACSM meetings attended.	
Year: _____	Meeting location: _____
Year: _____	Meeting location: _____
Year: _____	Meeting location: _____
Year: _____	Meeting location: _____
Has the applicant presented at a national or regional ACSM meeting? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (if Yes, list on Curriculum Vitae)	
Has the applicant authored or co-authored a peer-reviewed manuscript? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (if Yes, list on Curriculum Vitae)	
Has the applicant authored or co-authored a peer-reviewed abstract? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (if Yes, list on Curriculum Vitae)	

I certify that the statements herein are true, complete, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I certify that this assignment/report is my own work, in my own words, and that I have acknowledged all material and sources used in its preparation. I agree to accept full responsibility for the scientific conduct of the project, to comply with all University or College terms and conditions, including approval by the *Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects (IRB)* or *Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees (IACUC)* to ensure compliance with applicable federal and state mandates. In addition, I agree to present the results of my project at the NEACSM Annual Fall Meeting when my project is completed. Finally, I agree to acknowledge the "NEACSM Undergraduate Research Experience Grant" in any publication or presentation that results from this award.

Applicant's Signature: _____

ACSM New England Chapter

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE GRANT

NON-R1: DOCTORAL UNIVERSITIES INSTITUTIONS

NEACSM Undergraduate Research Experience Grants to support students at under-represented institutions with research in the exercise and sport sciences.

The intent of these grants is to encourage research at the undergraduate level for students at institutions that have a strong emphasis on teaching but often lack the resources to support research activities. The emphasis of these grants is to encourage and promote the research experience itself, with less focus on the scope of the project. Students eligible to receive these grants must currently be enrolled at a non-R1: Doctoral Universities institution within the New England region.

The following list of institutions are classified as non-R1: Doctoral Universities institutions and, therefore, meet the eligibility requirements for this grant:

Becker College	Norwich University
Bridgewater State University	Plymouth State University
Bryant University	Quinnipiac University
Castleton State University	Rhode Island College
Central Connecticut State University	Sacred Heart University
Champlain College	St. Joseph's College
Colby-Sawyer College	St. Michael's College
Connecticut College	Salem State University
Eastern Connecticut State University	Simmons College
Endicott College	Smith College
Fitchburg State University	Southern Connecticut State University
Franklin Pierce University	Springfield College
Green Mountain College	Three Rivers Community College
Husson University	University of Bridgeport
Keene State College	University of Hartford
Lasell College	University of Massachusetts - Boston
Manchester Community College (CT)	University of Massachusetts - Lowell
Manchester Community College (NH)	University of New England
Merrimack University	University of New Haven
Mitchell College	University of Rhode Island
New England College	University of Southern Maine
New Hampshire Technical Institute	University of Vermont
Northern Vermont University- Johnson	Wesleyan University
Northern Vermont University- Lyndon	Western Connecticut State University
Norwalk Community College	Westfield State University
	Wheaton College

If you believe your school qualifies and is not on the list, contact us at neacsm1@gmail.com.