



CALIFORNIA  
ALFALFA AND FORAGE  
RESEARCH FOUNDATION

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## **DH PUTNAM ALFALFA SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

### **2024 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The California Alfalfa & Forage Research Foundation (CAFRF) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation. **CAFRF's mission is to support research activities/initiatives that are of vital interest and direct benefit to alfalfa and forage growers.**

Dr. Daniel H. Putnam, also known as the “alfalfa king,” is a world-renowned expert on forage production and a leader in the industry. He has dedicated his career to research focused on industry needs, including developing best management practices for agronomic crops (irrigation, nutrients, pest management), determining how to manage alfalfa in drought years, and identifying new forage crops for diversifying grower markets. Further, Dr. Putnam is a founding member of CAFA and has been a Symposium chair for 30 years. In honor of Dr. Putnam's contributions to the alfalfa and forage industry and Western Alfalfa and Forage Symposium, this scholarship was created in 2023 to be awarded to students with research projects pertaining to alfalfa production and utilization in California.

#### **Proposal Information and Requirements**

**Name:** DH Putnam Alfalfa Scholarship Fund

**Administered by:** California Alfalfa & Forage Research Foundation, Sacramento, CA. The DH Putnam Alfalfa Scholarship Fund will be a sub-account in the California Alfalfa & Forage Research Foundation.

**Scope:** The objective of this fund is to encourage student research projects pertaining to alfalfa production and utilization in California.

**Eligible Applicants:** Graduate and Undergraduate students who are conducting or wish to conduct research projects highly relevant to alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*).

**Review Panel:** The proposals will be reviewed by the Research Foundation Board.

**Institutions:** Students must be enrolled in good standing in a college or university in California, Arizona or Nevada.

**Application Requirements:** Students must write a 1-2 paragraph summary (abstract) of the research they wish to conduct. This summary should include brief description of the reasons (justification) for the research, the objectives or hypotheses, brief summary of the methods used, data or results to be expected, and possible value of the conclusions of the studies.

**Supervision:** Each student must describe one or two academic advisors on the project and describe their interests in the subject and plans to work with the student.

**Awards:** To be provided directly to the students as an award. Described as a scholarship. This should be considered a competitive award since the students must write something that makes sense.

- Undergraduate:       \$3,000
- Graduate:             \$5,000

**Number of Awards Per Year:** Annual call for proposals, and approximately four awards per year.

**Funding:** Yearly renewal of the Scholarship Fund will be sought.

**Reports:** A one-paragraph report on the research is due to the CAFRF one year after the award is given. Mentor/academic advisor should approve and sign-off on the report.

**Priorities:** Any subject of importance to the development of alfalfa is eligible for this award. Priority will be given to the potential impacts of the research directly to farmers or the industry as a whole. Priority will also be given to those projects that have activities working with county-based Advisors or multi-disciplinary activities or those that will impact multiple locations within the region.

**Deadlines:** Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Send submissions to Megan Corcoran at [Megan@agamsi.com](mailto:Megan@agamsi.com).