

## **The Nicholas J. Deleonardis Undergraduate Research Award of The American Sign Language Project**

**Application deadline: June 15, 2022**

The goal of the Nicholas J. Deleonardis Undergraduate Research Award is to encourage full-time undergraduate college students to engage in research regarding non-invasive technologies that will improve communication between Deaf and hearing people.

### **Amount of Award**

\$1000

### **Award program guidelines**

To be eligible, applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be a full-time undergraduate student at an accredited four-year university or college in the United States. Work of a recent (within six months) graduate of an accredited four-year university or college in the United States will also be considered.
- Have completed a research paper that explores non-invasive technology that will improve communication between Deaf and hearing people.
- The paper must have been completed by the applicant as part of their coursework at the accredited four year college or university from which they will graduate or have already graduated.
- Have permanent U.S. residency
- Have earned a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or the equivalent)
- Complete the entire application packet

### **Application materials must include**

- A completed paper that researches non-invasive technology that will facilitate better communication between Deaf and hearing people.
- A letter of recommendation (500-1000 words) from a faculty member in their major who is familiar with the applicant's academic record, skills and abilities
- A personal statement, no more than one page, that explains how the applicant became interested in non-invasive technology for better Deaf/hearing communication
- Completed application form
- Official college transcript
- Proof of permanent residency, if not a U.S. citizen

## **Nicholas J. Deleonardis Undergraduate Research Award Selection Criteria**

Applications will be evaluated for the following:

- Quality of research paper, including
  - Commitment to facilitating better Deaf / hearing communication
  - Creativity
  - Understanding of challenges of research area, e.g. Deaf culture
  - Knowledge of current options available to the Deaf
  - Paper organization
  - Quality of writing (clarity, grammar, syntax, spelling)
- Personal Statement
- Letter of Recommendation from supervising faculty member
- Other qualifications as stated above – Undergraduate status, completed application, GPA, Permanent residency of U.S.

A review committee established by The American Sign Language Project will choose the award recipient based on the submitted materials.

### **Application Period, Process and Deadline**

Application materials must be received no earlier than 30 days before the posted deadline and must be received by The American Sign Language Project no later than the posted deadline.

Application materials will not be returned. Do not send originals of important documents. The American Sign Language Project is not responsible for lost, delayed or misdelivered applications.

### **Research Award Winner**

The winner of The Nicholas J. Deleonardis Undergraduate Research Award of The American Sign Language Project will be notified approximately six to ten weeks after the posted deadline. The winner will receive a check or similar remittance of the award amount after confirmation of the winner's address.

The American Sign Language Project reserves the right to announce that no winner has been chosen if none of the applications meet its selection criteria.

The winner of the **Nicholas J. Deleonardis Undergraduate Research Award** agrees to allow The American Sign Language Project to use his or her name and photo, image or likeness on the corporation's website and in public announcements and press releases about the award.

### **Statement of Non-discrimination**

The American Sign Language Project does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, disability, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, religious beliefs, or gender.

### **Closely Associated Parties are not eligible for the award**

Relatives of current or former members of The American Sign Language Project are not eligible for the **Nicholas J. Deleonardis Undergraduate Research Award**. Relatives of major contributors to The American Sign Language Project are not eligible for the **Nicholas J. Deleonardis Undergraduate Research Award**.

### **Application Delivery Method and Address**

Send applications to [scholarship@aslproject.com](mailto:scholarship@aslproject.com)

### **Application Checklist**

- Completed application form
- Official college transcript
- A signed letter of recommendation
- Proof of permanent residency, if not a U.S. citizen
- Research paper
- Personal statement

**The Nicholas J. Deleonardis Undergraduate Research Award Application**

*Read the eligibility guidelines. Review the application checklist before mailing.*

**Please type or print clearly.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an American citizen? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Are you a Permanent Resident of the U.S.? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Year in college (circle) Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Expected year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_ GPA \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_

College major \_\_\_\_\_ minor (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Research Paper**

A completed paper that researches noninvasive technology that will facilitate better communication between Deaf and hearing people.

**Letter of Reference**

A letter of recommendation (500-1000 words) from a faculty member in their major who is familiar with the applicant's academic record, skills and abilities. Please provide the name and address of the person writing the letter on your behalf in the area below:

Name of reference: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_  
School \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Circle: voice TTY  
E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number must be included.

To the best of my knowledge, all information that I have provided in my application is accurate and true and may be verified through any means necessary. I authorize The American Sign Language Project to confirm any details in this application by contacting the appropriate persons.

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Signature of Applicant

Date

Send your completed packet to [scholarship@aslproject.com](mailto:scholarship@aslproject.com)