

Joshua Tree National Park

Robert Lee Graduate Student Research Grant

Application Form 2015

INSTRUCTIONS

To maintain an efficient and equitable review process, applicants must provide all requested information within the spaces provided. Type font should be no smaller than 10 point. Applications not adhering to these guidelines may be rejected. Applications should be submitted via email to the Joshua Tree National Park Grant Coordinator at jotr_robert_lee_graduate_stud@nps.gov, by **October 23, 2015**. Save the completed application form as a PDF and email as an attachment. Applicants will receive a confirmation email indicating the completion of their submission shortly thereafter. Complete applications will be reviewed and ranked by a selection committee. Awards will be announced by the end of November 2015.

A complete application includes the following items:

1. A completed application form (including a line item budget)
2. Your current curriculum vita
3. References cited within the proposal description
4. Any diagrams or figures referenced within the proposal
5. A letter of confidence from your faculty advisor (This letter must demonstrate an understanding of the research proposal and serves as a professional reference.)

Items 1 through 4 must be sent electronically in **PDF** format to jotr_robert_lee_graduate_stud@nps.gov.
Item 5 must be sent directly from the faculty member to the following address prior to **October 23, 2014**:

Robert Lee Graduate Student Grant Coordinator
Joshua Tree National Park
74485 National Park Drive
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277

Please direct any questions concerning the Robert Lee Grant application to jotr_robert_lee_graduate_stud@nps.gov.

Please keep in mind that a separate research permit must be obtained from Joshua Tree National Park prior to starting your research. It is recommended that you allow a minimum of 30 days to receive this permit, please go to: <http://science.nature.nps.gov/research/ac/ResearchIndex>.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:

Mailing address:

Academic Institution:

Daytime phone number:

E-mail address:

Faculty Advisor:

Graduate School and Degree Program enrolled in:

Title of Proposed Research Project:

PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION

(Be clear, concise and complete. Please explain and justify the research to the review panel. Consider the selection criteria in describing your proposal. Limit text description to space provided on pages 2, 3, and 4. References, tables, diagrams and figures may be attached at the end of the application form.)

Purpose of proposed research project including research objectives, hypotheses (if so stated), experimental design, methods and anticipated significance (as applicable).

Please indicate how the expected results of this research can increase our understanding of desert resources. In particular, what is its relevance to Joshua Tree National Park and how can this research inform park managers about specific resource conditions.

Please describe how the results or information provided by this research can be used to create interpretive materials for public outreach at Joshua Tree National Park. Specifically, describe how anticipated results could be integrated into National Park Service interpretation and education programs. Include the following: educational message, media type (website, kiosk, pamphlets, guided ranger talks, etc...), specific location(s) in park, and audience.

PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION (continued)

PROPOSAL SCHEDULE

(Include field work, analysis, and projected accomplishment dates of grant program requirements. Project must be completed within 24 months of award).

BUDGET INFORMATION

List the items for which support is requested, their cost, and the total amount requested. Funding may be requested for: necessary supplies and minor equipment; actual cost of food and travel to, from and at the park; special logistical costs; computer support; access costs to special analytical equipment, etc. Non-allowable categories include: travel to scholarly meetings; preparation of thesis copy; salaries and stipends; publication costs; purchase of classroom books; and purchase of computers and printers. Add additional rows as necessary. It is not necessary to include park entrance fees as these will be waived as a part of the research permit issued.

Category	Description		Cost
Supplies and minor equipment (itemize)		\$	
Fees associated with sampling or analysis (itemize)		\$	
Travel (to & from park)		\$	
Lodging & Meals		\$	
Other (itemize)		\$	
	<i>Total request (\$4,000 maximum):</i>	\$	
If additional space is needed for the budget, please use the space on p.7			

List all sources of other funding for this project (include grants pending or awarded to you or your supervising faculty member and state how this grant will supplement these other sources).

Budget explanation (present a brief but convincing argument for any requested items whose justifications are not obvious).

ROBERT LEE GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT SELECTION CRITERIA

Criteria 1: Scientific Merit, Problem Definition, Feasibility, and Quality of Presentation (10 Points):

Does the applicant express the research question in a way that demonstrates an understanding the topic as well as the proposed methods or techniques? To what extent will this proposal make progress towards answering the research question? Is the problem well defined and adequate background information provided? Is the proposed timeframe and budget adequate for completing the scope of work? Are the hypotheses clearly stated and are the proposed methods and experimental design appropriate for use in answering the research question?

Criteria 2: Application to Resource Management (5 Points):

How will this project increase our understanding of desert resources? How will the expected results of this research inform park managers about specific resource conditions? Will this research fill an information void? Is there potential for the methods and expected results of this research to be transferable to another National Park Service unit or protected area in the desert southwest? Can the proposed research be conducted with minimal environmental compliance and/or mitigation requirements?

Criteria 3: Application to Education, and Interpretive Value and Products (5 Points):

In what way can the results or information provided by this research be used to educate the public? In what way can the Park use this information to create interpretive materials for public outreach? How might the results of your research be presented to park visitors? Are there clearly defined stories and environmental messages that can be developed from this proposed research? Does the proposal include a clear environmental message, appropriate medium for delivery, and a target audience?