



Detailed Application Instructions and Criteria 2023

Wildlife Disease Association Terry Amundson Student Presentation Award

About:

This award acknowledges outstanding student oral presentation of research findings at the annual international WDA conference. The overall winner of the Best Student Presentation Terry Amundsen Award receives a plaque and US\$350 (to offset conference expenses). The second-place winner (Honorable Mention) receives a plaque and US\$250 (to offset conference expenses).

Deadline:

The deadline for submission of student abstracts to be considered for this award will be identical to the deadline set for the non-student abstracts. The deadline for the call for abstracts for oral and poster presentations is **1 March 2023**.

Applicant eligibility:

Applicants must be **student members of the WDA**. Confirm your WDA membership status or join WDA now.

Definition of a student:

Enrolled in a graduate student program at least half-time **or** is participating full-time in an internship or residency program which is approved for credit towards board certification or a graduate degree.

Application criteria and process:

To be considered for this award at the conference, eligible students **must submit an abstract and select YES to the following questions** on the abstract submission form available via the annual international WDA conference website to have your abstract considered for the student oral presentation competition.

- Are you a student?
- Are you a current member of the WDA?
- Would you like to enter the WDA Student Presentation Award competition?

Student status and WDA membership status will be double checked. If you are not a student nor a WDA member at the time of abstract submission, your abstract will be considered for the general presentation session and will not be considered for this award.

In addition, the student (presenting author) must also be present to give the oral presentation on their research to the annual international WDA conference audience in the student presentation session. If the student (presenting author) is not available to present, they must withdraw their abstract. Co-authors cannot give the presentation on behalf of the student presenting author, regardless of their student



status.

The student abstract should follow the general abstract guidelines as outlined on the annual international WDA conference website. In addition, students submitting abstracts to be considered for the student presentation awards should read the **Student Abstract Scoring Criteria and Oral / Poster Presentation Scoring Criteria** (see pg. 3-5 below) prior to submitting an abstract. These criteria will be used to score abstract on a competitive basis to determine which will be chosen for the conference.

*****PLEASE NOTE*****

- Students can submit as many abstracts as they like.
- A maximum of ONE abstract will be accepted per student for each presentation modality. (e.g., maximum of 1 oral presentation and 1 poster presentation per student). If a student has submitted multiple abstracts and multiple abstracts score high enough to be accepted for presentation, the top-ranking abstract will be selected.
- When the following options are available (*Oral presentation only*, *Poster presentation only* and *Either oral or poster presentation* – or similarly worded options), then please note the following: If the submitting author selects '*an oral presentation only*', the abstract will not be considered for a poster presentation. If '*a poster presentation only*' is selected, the abstract will not be considered for an oral presentation. If the "*Either oral or poster presentation*" option is selected, the abstract will first be considered for an oral presentation. If the abstract is not selected for an oral presentation, it will be considered equally with all other abstracts submitted for poster presentations.
- If you indicate that you wish for your abstract to be considered for the student competition and it is not selected, your abstract will NOT be considered for presentation for the general sessions.



Abstract And Presentation Scoring Criteria

Student ORAL Abstract Scoring Criteria

- A. Student abstracts which do not present a scientific study organized in the manner listed in criteria (under C) are not eligible. Subheadings are not necessary, but each of these topics must be addressed in the abstract.
- B. Abstracts will be divided into oral and poster presentations groups for scoring. Those not awarded an oral presentation but who indicate in their submission that both oral and poster presentation options are acceptable will be further considered in the poster scoring lists.
- C. **Students will be scored on the following criteria with a numerical score: 5 (excellent), 4 (very good), 3 (good), 2 (average), 1 (poor), 0 (unacceptable)**
1. **Background – the abstract must provide an adequate introduction and background to set the stage for the study. (max 5 points)**
 2. **Hypothesis or Objectives – the abstract must list hypothesis(es) to be tested (as applicable) or the objectives of the research, in a clear and concise manner. (max 5 points)**
 3. **Materials and Methods – the abstract must present the methods used in a clear and concise manner. The methods must be adequate to test hypothesis(es) and address objectives of study. (max 5 points)**
 4. **Results – the abstract must report results that relate directly to methodology and are presented in a clear and concise manner. (max 5 points)**
 5. **Conclusions – the abstract must include conclusions that are sound, logical, and supported by data presented in the results section. Management implications should be presented, where appropriate. (max 5 points)**
- D. **Two additional criteria with a different scoring system will be assessed: 3 (meets the criteria very strongly), 2 (meets the criteria to some extent), 1 (meets the criteria in a limited way), 0 (does not meet the criteria)**
1. **Innovation - the study involves an important novel approach or addresses a novel topic using new designs, methods,**



hypothesis, etc. (max 3 points)

2. Significance – the research relates to a significant problem in the wildlife health/wildlifiedisease arena with internationally recognized relevance or of extreme local/regional importance. (max 3 points)

E. Criteria for refusal of abstracts:

- Abstracts that do not conform to submission guidelines listed above are to be refused.
- Abstracts that score 2 or more ZEROS or are below a total of 6 points for the first 5 criteria (total of 25 points) are to equally be excluded from oral or poster presentation regardless of classification on criteria 6-7.

Students can obtain a maximum of 25 points from criteria 1-5 plus an additional 6 points for criteria 6 and 7 to a grand total of 31 points. A final score will be calculated as the mean of the individual judge's scores.

Student ORAL Presentation Scoring Criteria

- A. Students will be scored on the following criteria with a numerical score: 5 (excellent), 4 (very good), 3 (good), 2 (average), 1 (poor), 0 (unacceptable)
 1. Background – student provides adequate introduction and background to set the stage for the study. (max 5 points)
 2. Hypothesis/Objectives – hypothesis(es) to be tested and objectives of study are presented clearly and concisely. (max 5 points)
 3. Methods – the student presents the methods clearly and concisely and the methods are adequate to test hypothesis(es) and address objectives of study. (max 5 points)
 4. Results – the student presents the results in a clear and concise manner and the results are directly related to methodology. (max 5 points)
 5. Conclusions – the student includes conclusions that are sound, logical, and supported by data presented in results section. (max 5 points)
 6. Visual Aids – visual aids/slides are well organized, balanced, logical, easily read and interpreted, and contain sufficient contrast to project well to a large audience. (max 5 points)
 7. Style and student “knowledge” – delivery is clear, audible, with proper



elocution, and with suitable tone and content to engage the audience.
(max 5 points)

B. Two additional criteria with a different scoring system will be assessed:

3. Innovation/Significance – the study involves a novel approach or addresses a novel topic, and/or relates to a significant problem in the wildlife health/wildlife disease arena. (3-meets the criteria very strongly, 2-meets the criteria to some extent, 1-meets the criteria in a limited way, 0-does not meet the criteria)
4. TIME – students have 12 minutes for the presentation, leaving 3 minutes for questions from the audience. Speakers running over the allotted time will be penalized. (3 points if considered to fulfill this criterion, 0 points otherwise).

Students can obtain a maximum of 35 points from criteria 1-7 plus an additional 6 points for criteria 8 and 9 to a grand total of 41 points. A final score will be Calculated as the mean of the individual judge's scores.