



**Western Colorado University**  
**MS in Ecology Inclusivity and Innovation Scholarship**

The scientific discipline of Ecology should be accessible to all those who want to learn. Structural and societal inequalities have plagued our academic institutions and research programs driving systemic barriers to inclusion within the ecological community. As scientists, we must be committed to removing these barriers, which prevent the full participation of historically under-represented people in our profession and society, so that all those who choose to pursue ecology can. [Western Colorado University's MS in Ecology program is now offering a scholarship that covers full tuition for a student who brings diversity to our field and who is committed to aiding our program in creating full participation and inclusion of all.](#) The scholarship will be awarded to promote diversity of race, gender, age, religion, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, presence of disabilities, internationalization, and educational and socioeconomic background.

Western's MS in Ecology program believes representation of all of the nation's diversity in the field of ecology leads to innovation and novel insight into ecological processes and their application to management and conservation. We are committed to providing a robust graduate level education including rigorous research that addresses key ecological issues. Diversity, equity, inclusivity, internationalization, and justice (DEIJ) enrich our learning and improve how we conduct science.

**Our program engages a new kind of scientist:** one whose ability to perform research with immediate relevance for solving problems is matched by their skills in collaborating with affected communities to produce accessible, socially just, and scientifically relevant results for utilization by agency scientists and natural resource managers, both policy-makers, and the public while also striving for inclusivity within the scientific community. There are two paths available to students in the program (Ecology and Conservation or Fisheries and Wildlife), both of which prepare students for a rich career in the field. For more information please check out page 6 of our graduate [Catalog](#).

To [apply](#) to the MS in Ecology Program and to this scholarship, please upload a statement (2-page max) when applying that describes how receiving this scholarship will aid in enabling your educational journey and commitment to the field of ecology and aid the MS program in achieving our commitment to DEIJ.