

## Guidelines & Procedures

### OVERVIEW

The Robert E. Murray Scholarship has been established in 2017 to encourage undergraduates, graduates and researchers in the academic pursuits in implementing innovation that can change the mining industry through the inclusion or adaptation of cutting edge technologies and innovative processes. The recipient will demonstrate an aptitude towards innovation or participated in an internship of an undergraduate project benefiting the mining industry.

### ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility criteria are as follows:

1. The candidate demonstrates aptitude or involvement in implementing innovative technologies, process and/or improvements, especially in Preferred Innovative Technologies. This can include concepts of innovation instead of projects.
2. Innovative technologies are defined as new equipment, processes or systems that result in significant technological improvement to the exploration, economic viability, and extraction of minerals.
3. Preferred Innovative Technologies are defined as technologies that are currently cutting edge in other fields or novel mineral research initiatives.
4. The scholarship will consider Innovation across the full mining cycle from exploration to closure and include ancillary roles such as engineering, construction, supply side and logistics.
5. The pace of advancing the industry through innovation is unpredictable and therefore the committee is not obligated to award a recipient every year.
6. Examples might include seafloor mining, space mining, autonomous vehicles, novel drone implementation, mineral processing advances, mineral economics innovations, etc. They would currently include robotics, autonomous operation, artificial intelligence, machine learning, etc.

### TIMELINE

Robert E. Murray Innovation Scholarship adheres to the following timeline:

Date	Task
September 1 - October 15	Applications accepted
October 1	Application initiation deadline – (Note: All applications should be initiated by this date to allow plenty of time for receipt of letters of recommendation prior to the October 15 deadline.)
October 15	Application deadline
December 1	Selection deadline
December 2	Applicant notification
December 15	Check(s) mailed
SME Annual Conference & Expo	Recipient(s) are recognized at the SME dinner

### APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

Robert E. Murray Innovation Scholarship applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Be an SME student member in good standing.
2. Attend a school that is [ABET](#) accredited and/or has an [SME student chapter](#).
3. Demonstrate a desire to pursue a career researching new technologies in academia or implementing new technologies in the mining industry.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Robert E. Murray Innovation Scholarship applications must be submitted online via SME's scholarship portal [smenet.org/students/grants-scholarships](http://smenet.org/students/grants-scholarships). The online application requires the following information:

1. Demographic and contact information.
2. Short statement (one page) describing applicant's interest in/passion for a career in the mining industry and a focus on innovation.
3. Two letters of reference, at least one of which must be from university faculty.
4. Résumé detailing past education and work experience.
5. Copy of most recent transcript (unofficial transcripts are ok).
6. Anticipated expenses for the current academic year above what you will receive from other scholarships and financial aid.



# ROBERT E. MURRAY INNOVATION SCHOLARSHIP

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### AWARD

The amount of the Robert E. Murray Innovation Scholarship is determined annually and is approved by the Robert E. Murray Innovation Scholarship Committee. The award includes a scholarship check of \$5,000 and covers necessary travel expenses (hotel, airfare, ground transportation, meals and conference registration) so the recipient(s) may attend the SME Annual Conference to accept the scholarship in person.

### QUESTIONS

Questions may be directed to:  
SME Scholarship Coordinator at [scholarships@smenet.org](mailto:scholarships@smenet.org) or  
SME Member Services Department 303-948-4200