UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Patricia F. Waller Scholarship

The Patricia F. Waller (PFW) Scholarship was created to honor Dr. Waller and is intended to fund scholarships for U-M graduate students and senior undergraduate students who elect a thesis, dissertation, or special project that addresses the human aspect of transportation policy or practice. Students may apply from all U-M departments and schools who are interested in conducting research on transportation safety for all vehicle occupants and road users.

Details

- Applications will be accepted for two deadlines: July 31, 2026, and November 30, 2026.
- Maximum funding: $5,000.
- Multiple awards are possible depending on application funding needs.
- Send completed application to: UMTRI-Waller.Scholarship@umich.edu.
- Scholarship questions can be addressed to Dr. Colleen Peterson (cmpete@umich.edu).

Requirements

- Applicants must be a U-M graduate student or senior undergraduate student, who will complete the research/activity while they are still enrolled as a student.
- Applicants must have a faculty supervisor who will oversee the research/activity and the expenditures for the scholarship funds.
- Must agree to provide the PFW Scholarship Committee with a one-page final report or a digital copy of their presentation that documents the research/activity.
- Must agree to give permission for their likeness to be used in reporting on and promoting the PFW Scholarship program.

Acceptable Use of Funds

- Funds can be used for direct expenses connected with the project, such as subject payment, copying, computational services, etc.
- Travel can be funded to support presentation of project outcomes.
- Funds can be used to cover the student's employment.
- Funds can be used for tuition support.

- Funds cannot be used for faculty salary.
- Other expenses may be covered outside of the above categories but must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the PFW Scholarship Committee.

The student will be invited to present on their project at UMTRI's Student Research Symposium and elsewhere.

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Scholarship Application

Patricia F. Waller Scholarship

Student Information

Project Title

Student's Name **Student's Email**

Student's Department

Student's Status: □ Undergraduate □ Master's □ Doctoral □ Other: _____

Student Attestation

I attest that I will provide the PFW Scholarship Committee with a final one-page report or a digital copy of their presentation that documents the research/activity and give permission for my likeness to be used in reporting on and promoting the PFW Scholarship program. **Agree:** □ Yes □ No

Supervision & Budget

Faculty Supervisor Name, Email, and Department

Requested Budget **Will Any Funds Be Used for Tuition?**

Tuition Funds: □ Yes □ No

Submit Your Project Details

Provide your answers to the following questions in separate document for submission.

Note: Maximum length for this document is 4 pages in 12-point font. References are not included in the page limit.

1. Project Description

Please describe the project that you will be engaged in, including a brief background of the work, the motivation for it, and proposed methods.

2. Contribution to Transportation Safety

How does the project contribute to human or public health aspects of transportation, research, policy, or practice? For example, what are the practical outcomes of the project for transportation safety?

3. Itemized Budget & Timeline

Please provide an itemized budget with a list of costs (e.g., salary, tuition, participant incentives). Also provide a timeline describing specific tasks you will take on for the project and when the tasks will take place.

4. Faculty Supervisor: Supervision Plan

To be completed by the faculty supervisor: Please describe the supervision plan.

Submit completed application to: **UMTRI-Waller.Scholarship@umich.edu**