

2019 Environmental Science Scholarship Winners

Makayla Whaling wins the 2019 PAEP Gifford Pinchot Scholarship!

Makayla is currently enrolled in the Penn State DuBois Wildlife Technology Program with a perfect 4.0 GPA and plans to major in Wildlife and Fisheries Science. She is active in several organizations, including the National Parks of Western PA Alternative Break Service Program where she participated in the Plant a Tree at Flight 93 Program and other service projects. In addition, she has completed an independent study categorizing and analyzing elk activity from video captured on a camera that was mounted on an elk. Makayla has been a Forestry Intern with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and, more recently, a Keystone Elk County Alliance Intern with the Elk County Visitor Center. She has been selected to be a Wildlife Tutor for the 2019 Spring Semester at the Penn State DuBois Center for Undergraduate Excellence and since starting college has been on the Dean's List, received the President's Freshman Award, and was selected to the Pennsylvania State University Honors Program. Makayla's career goal is to become a wildlife biologist.

Alexis Bowser wins the 2019 PAEP Maurice Goddard Scholarship!

Alexis is a second-time applicant for our scholarship program from Penn State University. She majors in Biology with a 3.76 GPA. Alexis is a member of the National Biological Honors Society (TriBeta), participating in community outreach events and educational field trips, and THON, the largest student-run philanthropy in the world that raises money to fight pediatric cancer. She also is a member of Habitat for Humanity, where she helped build a home for a family in need in Montreal this past Thanksgiving. Alexis is a member of the campus volleyball team and softball team and has been selected to be a Senior Peer Tutor and a Learning Assistant. Over her years at Penn State she has received several awards, including the Penn State Chancellor's Award, Academic All-American, Division of Undergraduate Studies Award for Exploratory Students, and she has been on the Dean's List. Alexis held an internship with PADEP Bureau of Clean Water last summer, where her chief task was the identification and enumeration of black fly larvae and adult samples. Additionally, she worked in the field to sample black fly adults, mosquito larvae, and ticks and in the molecular laboratory to extract and analyze mosquito DNA to detect presence of West Nile Virus. Alexis plans to have a career in conservation focusing on environmental education.