



Intelligent Transportation Society of Connecticut Student Grant Program

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide information to interested parties on the Student Grant Program of ITS-CT. This program is designed to work with the academic schedule and mode of operation of College coursework, to provide grants to quality projects of interest to ITS-CT, and avoid conflict of interest for Board members associated with a college or university. The following sections detail the objectives, eligibility, constraints, and structure of the Student Grant Program.

Objectives of the Program

The objectives of the ITS-CT Student Grant Program are to:

- Promote interest in Intelligent Transportation Systems among college and university students in Connecticut;
- Increase the visibility of the Chapter at colleges and universities in Connecticut; and
- Solve problems or complete ITS projects of interest to the Connecticut transportation community that are not practical to be completed by conventional means (e.g., contracted through a consultant or by a public agency)

Eligibility

The following lists eligibility requirements for the program:

- Any student or group of students enrolled in a credit-bearing course at an ITS-CT Chapter member college or university in Connecticut is eligible to submit a project to be considered for the grant.
- Students must have completed a minimum of two semesters at a college or university in Connecticut
- The Grant Committee will not award a grant if they feel the project does not meet the objectives of the grant. At the discretion of the ITS-CT Board and as Chapter funds permit, more than one grant may be awarded if the Grant Committee deems it appropriate. Consequently, the Board is not required to provide a grant every year.

Constraints

Each college/university has certain rules that must be adhered to. Students are responsible for ensuring that participation in this grant program does not conflict with his/her institution.

Sample constraints may include but are not necessarily limited to:

- Full-time engineering graduate students are generally paid stipends of over \$9,000 per semester (currently \$979.43 per bi-weekly pay period at UConn), including tuition waiver and health insurance benefits, and are not permitted to accept remuneration for outside work when hired on an assistantship.
- No students (undergraduate or graduate) are permitted to receive course credit for work for which they received monetary compensation. They can, however, receive competitive grants for outstanding scholarship awarded on the basis of work completed for a course(s) or thesis.
- Undergraduate engineering students are permitted to receive monetary compensation for work they perform outside of regular school work, however ITS-CT requires supervision by either a faculty member or a professional outside the university; for example, undergraduate students in most cases would not have the background needed to complete projects in traffic engineering operations. It should be noted that while an advisor may expect compensation for such time, compensation is provided to the student only.

Program Structure

The following provides details on the grant program administration:

- The award will consist of a grant of \$2,000 to a single student (up to \$4,000 for a group of students) who completes a project to the satisfaction of the Student Grant Committee appointed by the ITS-CT Board of Directors.
- Interested students will be required to submit a letter of intent including a brief description of the proposed project, an anticipated schedule, and approval from the advising professor.
- Accepted projects should be carried out under the guidance and supervision of the advising professor; periodic updates shall be provided to the Student Grant Committee. After all research is complete, the student(s) will provide an oral presentation of findings as well as a written report. Upon final acceptance of the written report the BOD will award the grant.