



Frank Chernosky Campus Climate Ambassador Award 2025-2026

Overview:

The Frank Chernosky Campus Climate Ambassador Award supports the development of Michigan Tech undergraduate students into the climate change leaders of tomorrow. This alumni-funded award is named after Frank Chernosky, a former professor and advisor at Michigan Tech. Mr. Chernosky was an early advocate for sustainability principles who impacted many students before dying tragically from a rare form of Heart Cancer in 1971. This award in his name consists of three forms of student support: a partial tuition scholarship, funds for professional development and/or applied work, and a formal mentorship by campus and/or external professionals. One recipient will be chosen annually.

Eligibility

To be considered, an applicant must be a full-time undergraduate student at Michigan Tech with the equivalent of at least three semesters of full-time enrollment at Michigan Tech by the fall of 2025. They must also have a minimum of two semesters of coursework remaining, though there is potential for flexibility to accommodate an internship or coop into the award timeframe. A student may win the award more than once.

Award amount and timing

The award for 2025-26 will be \$9,600 - a scholarship amount of \$8,000 spread over fall and spring semesters, and a professional development and applied work fund of up to \$1,600 to be used by August 2026. Awardees will also receive active mentorship from campus and/or external professionals to help them develop networks and skills for their future work. The overall timetable for the award is flexible to accommodate opportunities such as a co-op or internship. Applicants and award recipients will solidify the details on the timing of the award, as well as the nature of mentorship and professional development, through the application process and dialogue with the committee.

Application Process

Applications are due by Friday March 14 and a final decision by early April. [Please use this Google Form to submit your application](#) - the questions are included below for planning purposes.

All finalists will have the opportunity to interview. All applicants are encouraged to have an open dialogue with the committee that oversees the award before submitting their application to help them crystalize their ideas and begin the process of identifying professional development and mentorship opportunities.

Criteria

We encourage all eligible Michigan Tech undergraduate students with a passion for climate and sustainability issues to apply. The committee will assess applicants based on their commitment to climate issues and resource conservation; demonstrated excellence in academics, involvement, and the workplace; and a clear vision for their professional development and professional aspirations.

Expectations

All award recipients will be required to set specific professional development goals and deliver a self-assessment of their accomplishments upon completion of the award.

Please direct any questions to Alan Turnquist, Director of Sustainability and Resilience:
alturnqu@mtu.edu | 906-497-2413

Application questions

Basic questions:

1. Name (First Last):
2. Anticipated total number of credits earned by the start of fall semester, 2024 (include spring and summer credits yet to be earned):
3. Academic Major:
4. Upload a PDF of your resume (title with your last name_first name_resume):

Long-form responses (300-word max per question, please):

5. Please describe your interest and involvement in climate and/or sustainability issues:
6. What are your goals and aspirations for future work and involvement in addressing climate change?
7. Mentorship and professional development is a key component of the Chernosky Climate Ambassador Award. Use this space to describe your professional development interests and how you might use this award to advance them. To the degree possible, please list your specific interests in professional societies, training, or events, as well as any topics or sources of mentorship or professional development that you would prioritize during your award year.
8. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself that is relevant to the award?
9. Do you have any questions for us?