

The Ansari Travel Scholarship in Religion (\$2,500 per award, one award per year)

DESCRIPTION: The Ansari Travel Scholarship in Religion will provide \$2,500 in financial support for one undergraduate student each year to travel to carry out research, attend specialized training programs, or participate in an internship related to the study of religion in international affairs. Since at least the fall of the Soviet Union in the early 90s, religion has become a crucial feature of global affairs. Whether used by groups as a language of resistance to what they see as injustice, or by governments to oppress citizens, the role of religion in international and domestic political life is complex and highly sensitive to specific contexts and cultures. The Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict's student research awards are grounded in the conviction that students experience exponential learning and growth when they can travel and learn firsthand about other cultures and societies. Critical to our vision is preparing the next generation of citizens and leaders to think more deeply and clearly about how religion influences and shapes world affairs.

ELIGIBILITY: To be eligible for the Ansari Scholarship, the student must be enrolled as a full-time undergraduate student, demonstrate financial need as defined by the university, and have a 3.0 or higher cumulative average GPA (non-weighted). Students will be selected based upon the strength of their proposed project (a research project, training program, or internship) and its ability to contribute to their overall program of study and career development. The scholarship may be renewed, but students must re-apply each year. The program will be open to students from any major. Scholarship recipients will present their research findings or program/internship experiences at a Center event upon their return and will become ambassadors of the Center in their future endeavors.

Friends of the Center Undergraduate and Graduate Awards (up to \$2,500 per award, number of awardees varies each year)

DESCRIPTION: The Friends of the Center **Undergraduate and Graduate** Awards are designed to deepen students' knowledge and understanding about religion, conflict, and/or peacebuilding. These awards, for travel or research support, can be up to \$2,500 per award, and the number of awardees changes from year to year. The awards are made possible through the generous support of the Friends of the Center, a group of private individuals committed to advancing the research and education mission of the Center. Activities that can be funded through this program range from: **(A)** research support for an honor's thesis, master's thesis, or doctoral dissertation; to **(B)** participation in reputable, internationally-oriented training programs in religion, conflict, and peacebuilding (a list of examples is available on the Center's website); to **(C)** research activities that advance understanding of the intersections of religion and conflict. Award funds may be used to cover the costs of participation in programs, including tuition and airfare, or to underwrite the cost of research (including travel, summer support, or archival research).

This year, the Center also will consider applications to support research programs or projects that focus on local vulnerable communities, particularly those that have been impacted disproportionately by the Covid pandemic.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must be currently enrolled at Arizona State University and enrolled in the semester following the proposed research or program.

Undergraduate students must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate program at Arizona State University, have a 3.0 or higher cumulative GPA, and demonstrate the relationship of the selected peacebuilding program or research project to their career development. Awards will be made based on: a) the academic merit of the proposal; b) demonstrated interest in the area of religion, conflict and peace studies as evidenced in application materials; and c) the relationship of the proposal to the student's career goals.

Graduate students must be currently enrolled in a graduate program at Arizona State University and in good standing with their department. The award must be used to pursue advanced studies or training in some aspect of religion, conflict, and peace studies. Awards will be made based upon the following criteria: a) the scholarly record and promise of the applicant; b) the significance of the research or training to the study of religion and conflict; and c) the significance of the research or training to the applicant's program of study.