The Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) has available funding to support two (2) research grants/scholarships for students conducting studies related to invasive exotic plant management in Florida.

The deadline for proposal submission is 28 February 2020. Written proposals should be no more than three (3) pages in length, including detailed methods for the research to be conducted, as well as references and budget. Requests for funding should be no more than $2,000. The proposal should include a summary of the research project and its relationship with Florida exotic pest plant management problems. Proposals longer than three pages in length will be returned without review. Particular plant species involved in the study should be one or more of the Category I or Category II exotic pest plant species listed by FLEPPC (see: http://www.fleppc.org) or plants that are determined to have a “high” or “moderate” invasion risk by the UF IFAS Assessment (https://assessment.ifas.ufl.edu/). In addition, the applicant should provide complete contact information and a detailed budget, with an explanation of how the funding will be used. Contact information also MUST include the student’s Sponsored Research Department to facilitate payment/disbursement of grant funds. Examples include (but are not limited to) travel funds for field work, funds for research equipment or supplies (or temporary use of specialized equipment), a stipend for applicant's project work time not otherwise supported, travel funds for presentation of the research at the annual FLEPPC meeting, etc. In developing the budget, funds requested are to be used for the direct costs of conducting research on the proposed project and are not to be used for indirect costs incurred by the student’s university or agency.

Proposals will be evaluated and ranked on the critical management need for scientific results in the area of study and on the clarity of the submitted request.

Basic eligibility requirements:

To be eligible for funding, applicants:

- must be an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled at an accredited institution of higher learning anywhere within the United States;
- the research must be conducted on a listed Florida invasive plant (http://www.fleppc.org/list/list.htm);
- an accompanying letter of recommendation from a faculty advisor MUST be included as part of the application package;
- must provide the full address of your Sponsored Programs/Contracts & Grants department, the person to whom a check should be sent, and how the check should be made out (in the event you are awarded the grant).

Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. 02/28/2020. Send proposals by e-mail to: Dr. Carey R. Minteer c.minteerkillian@ufl.edu using the following naming convention:

- “LAST NAME_First name_proposal” and:
- “LAST NAME_First name_recommendation”.