

**Tonolli Fund**

# Information on the Tonolli Fund

The Tonolli Fund of SIL was created in 1985 through a request from Vittorio and Livia Tonolli, well known limnologists at the Istituto Italiano di Idrobiologia in Pallanza, Italy. The purpose of the fund is to provide assistance to young limnologists of developing countries. In recent years, the awards committee for the Tonolli Fund has used the fund primarily for support of students who are working toward post-graduate degrees (MSc, PhD) in the field of limnology. The committee will not consider research support for young limnologists who have just received an advanced degree and are in need of funds to support research, or of local limnological projects involving more than one Early Career limnologist. Awards from the Tonolli Fund generally are in the amount of **$1000 to $1,500** for a period of one year. Recipients can also apply again for support in the following year. Applications should be **submitted by June 30, 2025**.

The awards committee for the Tonolli Fund will emphasize research and graduate education in limnology. Subjects of highest priority for the Tonolli Fund include the following: cycling (biogeochemistry) of carbon, key nutrients, or other elements known to be important to inland waters; studies of the production of either plant, animal, or microbial biomass and the factors that regulate production; studies of community composition, biodiversity, or factors that regulate these attributes of inland waters; analytical or comparative studies of physical, hydrological, chemical, or biotic processes in all types of inland waters.

Factors to be considered in the competition for fellowship support include the statement of the applicant on research interests and need for financial support, and the written evaluation of two university faculty members or senior research colleagues who know the applicant well. Applicants should explain how the proposed work will be done, what equipment is available, what methods will be used, what problems might arise and how they will be solved, where the project will be conducted, and who will be available for advising purposes. Applicants should explain why a particular problem was chosen for study, and comment on the importance of the problem for theoretical or applied limnology, and for the student’s country. Applicants should cite at least five internationally published journal articles that they have read as inspiration for the work that they are undertaking. The application should be approved and signed by the applicant’s supervisor.

The Tonolli Fund cannot be used for international travel or non-research expenses. Awards are made through institutions, on condition that the institution takes no overhead. Institutes that will take overhead will be excluded from future awards. In order not to pay an overhead, the supervisor may receive the student's money, and both applicant and supervisor will then be responsible to submit a signed overview declaring how the funds were spent. **The award recipient must write and submit a brief scientific report within 12 months after receiving the award**, explaining the use of the award, research progress, and an accounting of how the funds were spent. A financial report should be attached, with receipts, detailing how the money was spent. Failure to submit the report means that the award recipient will be ineligible for future awards, and the supervisor of the award recipient will not be able to support future applications. Award recipients will be announced on the Tonolli Award page of the SIL website. Awardees will be invited to write a brief summary of their research for SILnews. Presentation at SIL congress will be encouraged.

**Send applications by e-mail to Michelle Gros at** **business@limnology.org****.** Two confidential letters of reference according to guidelines at the end of the application form should also be sent directly to this email.

**Tonolli Fund Application Form**

Surname (Family name, according to passport):

First name:

Gender:

Nationality:

E-mail:

University Education (omit primary schooling):

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **From** | **to** | **Institution (name, place)** | **Degree/qualification earned** |
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Title of present position (employment): Since:

Institution at which this position is held (name and address):

Describe your responsibilities in your present job, if you are employed (up to 40 words):

Indicate your knowledge of international languages:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Language** | **Read** | **Understand** | **Speak** | **Write** |
|  | moderate | good | excellent | moderate | good | excellent | moderate | good | excellent | moderate | good | excellent |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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Describe your previous education, training, and research in limnology or related fields (100 words). Here, if applicable, you may also list up to 3 papers on which you are a co-author.

Explain your skills and experience (100 words):

Describe the research or training that you will conduct under Tonolli support, including an explanation of the problem, key questions to be answered by the study, and methods to be employed (400 words).

Describe the significance of the proposed research to limnology, to your own country and at the international level (300 words).

Please provide a budget of the expenses you would like covered by this award. You can include consumables and travel to/from sampling. Your request can range USD 1000-1500.

Budget request (in USD):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Expense** | **Expense details** | **Amount** | **Price per unit** | **Total requested**  |
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| **Total requested** |  |  |  |  |

Provide additional details as to how you will use the money provided by the Tonolli Fund (100 words).

Give the names, titles, and addresses of two individuals who will be sending letters of reference to SIL on your behalf directly to business@limnology.org:

## Signatures:

## 1) Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2) Applicant’s supervisor:**

I hereby declare that I agree to receive the funds for the above listed research project of my student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (full name).

I understand it is my responsibility to ensure that the applicant will submit scientific and financial reports, within 12 months of receiving the award. I understand that I will have to be responsible for the funds of this project and will have to sign the financial report.

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Tonolli Fund Application**

**Instructions for letters of reference**

Please provide a confidential letter of reference for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name), who is applying for support of post-graduate education to the Tonolli Fund of the International Society for Theoretical and Applied Limnology. Please put the recommendation onto the letterhead of your institution, and include the following information in your letter:

1. How well you know the applicant, and in what capacity (student, employee, etc.)
2. What is the current status of the applicant (student, employed, etc.)
3. The personal qualities of the applicant (intelligence, perseverance, motivation, etc.)
4. Special skills of this applicant, as compared with others (for example, quantitative ability, experience in chemical methods, experience with analytical equipment, knowledge of taxonomy of a particular group, etc.)
5. The probability that these funds will improve the educational prospects or research output of this student, and for what reason.
6. Your overall rating of this student, as compared to others of similar rank whom you have known.

The Tonolli Fund committee very much appreciates your contribution to the review process.

Please e-mail your confidential letter directly to SIL, specifying in the subject line ‘Tonolli Award’ and the name of the student you support. Email to Michelle Gros at <business@limnology.org>