

International Geosynthetics Society
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23 January 2026

RE: IGS Young Members Travel Grants Open Students Awards at 13th ICG

Dear IGS Young Members,

The Young Members Committee (YMC) of the International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) is pleased to announce a program of travel grants to support Young Members wishing to attend the 13th International Conference on Geosynthetics (13ICG), to be held from 13 to 17 September 2026 in Montreal, Canada. With the support of the IGS Foundation, Young Members will be assisted in participating in this important event.

Eligibility

These travel grants are open to all IGS Young Members, defined as students and young professionals who are 35 years old or younger at the time of the conference (i.e. who will not turn 36 during or before the conference) and who are registered members of the IGS. Applicants must have submitted a contribution to 13ICG and be committed to presenting their work at the conference if selected for funding.

Grant amount and selection criteria

The YMC intends to award grants of **up to 1,200 USD** per recipient to assist with travel (plane, bus, train) and participation (e.g. accommodation and conference fee) costs. Members from regions with greater financial need will be prioritized. The selection process will reflect the IGS Foundation's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, ensuring representation across different regions, genders and backgrounds.

Grants will be awarded based on the following main criteria:

1. travel costs, considering financial need based on the World Bank's Purchasing Power Parities (FN: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/PA.NUS.PRVT.PP>);
2. quality of research

Where candidates are in similar conditions, preference will be given to applicants who have demonstrated active service or contributions to the IGS and/or IGS Young Member activities

Objectives of the program

The primary objective of these travel grants is to enhance the diversity of Young Members participating in the 13ICG, rather than solely recognizing the most outstanding individuals, as is typically done in Young Member contests. By supporting attendance from a broad range of regions and backgrounds, the program aims to strengthen the global Young Member community within the IGS.

Application procedure and timeline

Young Members are invited to apply by **28 February 2026**. A panel of judges appointed by the IGS will review all eligible applications and select the grant recipients by 15 March 2026. Awards will be conditional upon the Young Member presenting their work at the conference.

Applications must be submitted using the dedicated online form:

<https://forms.gle/d3QG9Z44pYzNKfs4A>

Should Google not be available in your country, the application can be submitted by completing this PDF and sending it, along with all the requested documents, to:

youngmembers@geosyntheticsociety.org

Payment and conditions

The travel grants will be paid after the conference. In exceptional circumstances, funding prior to the conference may be considered. Reimbursement will be made via PayPal wherever possible; for countries where PayPal is not accessible, alternative payment methods may be used. Each Young Member receiving travel assistance will be required to:

1. Present their accepted contribution at the 13ICG.
2. Submit a feedback report of approximately 450 words and photographs from the conference, to be provided within one month after the event. Following the conference, the recipients will be sent a document that must be completed with all the required information.
3. Assist with the IGS Foundation Silent Auction during the 13ICG. Further details will be provided during the conference.
4. The IGS YMC will collect the written reports and photographs and make them available to the IGS Foundation and the IGS for publication and future promotion, including on websites and social media.

Contacts

For any questions regarding the travel grants or the application process, please contact the IGS Young Members Committee at youngmembers@geosyntheticsociety.org

The IGS Young Members Committee and the IGS Foundation warmly encourage all eligible Young Members to apply and look forward to receiving your applications and welcoming you to Montreal in September 2026.

Yours sincerely,

Viviana Mangraviti
CHAIR OF THE IGS YOUNG MEMBER COMMITTEE