



CALL FOR GRADUATE RESEARCH PROPOSALS

The Bureau International des Containers Grant Opportunity of 2023 to Promote Safety, Security, Standardization, and Sustainability in Intermodal Transportation

Up to US\$30,000 available

The Bureau International des Containers (BIC) is now accepting proposals for research grants of up to \$30,000 U.S. for projects addressing one or more of its four primary mission areas: to promote safety, security, standardization and sustainability in intermodal transportation.

Deadline for Submission: December 31, 2022

About BIC:

BIC was founded in 1933 as a neutral, non-profit, international organization and has published the BIC Code Register since 1970. In 1972, the BIC was appointed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as the industry's global container prefix registry, a role further endorsed by international customs conventions. BIC currently has over 2600 container-operating members in more than 125 countries. Today, the BIC code is the "international calling card" of nearly every container in international trade, allowing for proper identification and facilitating the crossing of borders without delay. With a mission to promote the safe, secure, standardized, and sustainable expansion of intermodal transportation, the BIC enables professional dialogue amongst its members, standards bodies, governments and other industry organizations. The BIC holds official observer status as an NGO at both the International Maritime Organization (IMO), and the World Customs Organization (WCO), and contributes regularly as an observer to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and other organizations.

Overview of the Grant:

The purpose of the grant is to support graduate students from around the world in research projects aimed at improving our understanding of intermodal transportation, particularly as it relates to BIC's four core values of improved *safety, security, standardization, and sustainability*. Those proposals that best articulate how their research will support one or more these core values will receive highest priority. Research may be quantitative or qualitative in approach. The research project may last up to two years and requires that a faculty advisor oversee the project.

Funding:

Funds may be used for tuition support, technical assistance, purchase of technology, and travel for research. Funds may not be used for travel to conferences. Funds may support up to three

graduate students if they are working together on the same project. Awards will be dispersed beginning in January, 2023.

Review and Reporting:

Proposals will be reviewed by a team of international leaders in intermodal transportation, representatives from BIC, and academics. Semi-annual reports describing progress on the research and use of the award funds is required and will determine whether the rest of the funds will be dispersed.

Submission Requirements:

To be considered for an award, please submit the following material to the Review Committee Chairperson, Dr. Elizabeth McNie at emcnie@csum.edu:

1. A proposal *no longer than 1,000 words in length* (not including supplemental material).
2. A letter of support (*no longer than 200 words in length*) from the applicant's advisor attesting to their ability to undertake the research.
3. A Curriculum Vitae of all applicants.

Proposals need to include the following:

1. A separate cover sheet with the following information:
 - a. Name of research project
 - b. Name of applicant(s)
 - c. Name of University
 - d. Name of faculty advisor
 - e. Amount of funds requested
2. Overview of research project, including:
 - a. Brief abstract
 - b. Research questions or hypotheses
 - c. Methods to be used
 - d. Expected findings
 - e. Explanation of how findings from the research will improve our understanding of intermodal transportation as it relates to one or all of the following: safety, security, standardization, and sustainability
3. Description of how findings will be disseminated (e.g. papers, conferences, workshops)
4. Explanation of how the funds will be used
5. Approximate timeline of the research project
6. Supplemental material (not included in the 1000-word limit) including bibliography of sources used, diagrams, formulae, tables, name and contact information of university personnel who will be managing funds.

DEADLINE for submission is December 31, 2022

Notification of awards will be made during the month of January 2023

Inquiries: All inquiries regarding the BIC Grant shall be made to the Chairperson of the Review Committee, Assoc. Professor Elizabeth McNie, PhD, at the California State University Maritime Academy at emcnie@csum.edu. General inquiries can be addressed to the BIC at bic@bic-code.org