

2026 Scholarship Awards for Richardson-Applebaum Outstanding Graduate Research on Food Distribution and Marketing



The Food Distribution Research Society (FDRS) is pleased to accept applications for the **Richardson-Applebaum Outstanding Graduate Research on Food Distribution and Marketing**. Broadly defined, this area encompasses all economic functions that occur between the farm gate and final consumer.

Eligibility

- The competition is open to all graduate students with scholarly interest and career aspirations in the food distribution system who have completed the degree between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025.
- Please note: 1) applicants are limited to applying for each category only once and subsequent submissions will not be considered, 2) only one submission will be accepted per university per category each year, and 3) **applications must be submitted by Friday, April 24, 2026 by the student's department head/chair via email to:**
Nathan Kemper (nkemper@uark.edu) (include *2026 FDRS Scholarship Award* in the subject line).

Award

- One travel stipend to attend the 2026 Annual Conference for each of the following categories: best Ph.D. Dissertation (\$1,500), best M.S. Thesis (\$1,500), and best M.S. Case Study (\$1,500).
- Complimentary one-year FDRS student membership.
- Complimentary conference registration fees and recognition at the 2026 annual meeting.
- The Ph.D. recipient is invited to deliver a 10-minute research presentation during the FDRS Applebaum-Richardson Award Luncheon (or dinner).

Application steps

Students should save the following, in order, as one PDF file. When labeling the PDF file, please include your first and last name, category (e.g., Best Ph.D.), and name of your university. Again, the final application must be submitted by the student's department head/chair via email to Nathan Kemper (nkemper@uark.edu) (be sure to include 2026 FDRS Scholarship Award in the subject line).

- Statement of Intent form (see attachment or <https://www.fdrsinc.org/fdrs-awards/>)
- Cover letter that includes a brief synopsis of academic training, any food industry experience, and/or research experience and career interests and goals.
- Letter of recommendation from the research paper advisor.
- A copy of the dissertation/thesis/case study

For more information

Please visit the FDRS website at <https://www.fdrsinc.org/fdrs-awards/> or contact FDRS's Vice President of Education: Dr. Nathan Kemper