This award will recognize undergraduate students pursuing the BSChE degree who have made substantial individual contributions in research or design. A student may self-nominate and a full time faculty member can nominate a student. Student applications are due by March 31. The full time faculty member supporting information is due by April 14.

Target Percent of Students

The number of awards will be limited to no more than 20% of the students in a graduating class.

Minimum Commitment

This award is based on individual contributions to research or design. In terms of effort, the minimum requirement is the equivalent to nine credits of ChBE 495 and/or ChBE 499 in a paid or unpaid position. Other individual research or design efforts will be considered if conducted under the supervision of a ChBE faculty advisor and the advisor certifies the equivalent effort. Course credit for ChBE 403 and ChBE 404 cannot be counted toward these minimum credits.

Advisor

One member of the full-time ChBE faculty must certify work for the student. The work can be performed under the guidance of a faculty member at Rice University or by a faculty member at another University outside Rice, including international locations. The faculty member certifying the work must be familiar with the details of the studies and be in a position to judge the quality of the results.

Eligibility

Only candidates of the BSChE degree will be eligible. The university recommendation of a 3.30 cumulative GPA will be imposed.

Detailed Requirements

This award is restricted to those who have made a substantial contribution to individual research or design substantially “above and beyond” the normal degree requirements. The minimum
requirement is the equivalent of nine credits devoted to individual research or design efforts. The independent work can be conducted over multiple sessions such as 3 academic semesters, 2 semesters and a summer, 1 semester and 2 summers, or 3 summers. The student may work in different labs and/or have different faculty advisors through these sessions. The work could be performed for credit in ChBE 499 or ChBE 495 or during a paid or unpaid internship in a lab.

A substantial achievement must be documented in the form of co-authorship on a publication or on a paper or poster presented at a technical meeting. The advisor must certify that the student has made a substantial independent contribution to any paper or publication. In some cases, an undergraduate thesis may be substituted to satisfy this requirement. Submission of papers or posters to on-campus events at Rice University does not fulfill this requirement.

Nomination Process

Students may self-nominate. All contributions in research or design must be certified by a full-time ChBE faculty member. Recommendation letters may accompany the nomination packet. The packet must include copies or citations for any publications or documents resulting from the student research or design. Publications will be considered at any stage even in draft form where the advisor certifies the intent to publish.

Nominations must be received by the designated ChBE Awards Committee no later March 31. Faculty certification forms are due no later than April 14. The Awards Committee will make their decision based on the documents submitted. The ChBE Department Chair will review and approve the selections.