

Application Form for the Ernest Hoaby Innovation Scholarship

Part I – The Innovation:

- (a) Title or Name of the Innovation or Innovative Design.
- (b) Identify the name and status (3rd year, 4th year, etc.) of each contributor. Do not include GPA as it will not be considered. If you had faculty advisors that aided or coached you in the innovation (or the project containing the innovation), state who they were.
- (c) Brief description of the innovation or innovative design. What does it do?
- (d) What is new or unique about this innovation?
- (e) Describe the prior art (or technology) to your innovation. What is your innovation replacing or improving? Include copies of two recent yet relevant patents from patent searches that help show the prior art that you are improving upon. (Patent copies are not needed for an innovation that is a process.)
- (f) Why or how is this innovation useful? How does it improve upon a prior design, technology, or product. (Examples: new function, better reliability, better maintainability, lower power, higher speed, lower cost, etc.)
- (g) What are the disadvantages of this innovation over the technology it is intended to improve and possibly replace? How does the innovation mitigate these disadvantages or outweigh them with benefits such that the innovation is still worth adopting?
- (h) What applications might your design apply to beyond the ones you originally intended it for?

Part II – Personal Achievement (Optional).

This section may be submitted by individuals as a supplement to Part A.

The Hoaby Innovation Award may take into consideration an applicant's personal achievements when making award decisions. Special consideration will be given to students who have worked through a disadvantaged background to get into college or the field of engineering. Some consideration may also be given to students who have performed significant community service of some type.

If you feel that this section applies to you and you wish to share it with the ECE department members who will make the award decisions, then please attach a personal statement summarizing your achievements. If you are a recipient of a Hoaby Scholarship, your personal statement will remain on file in the ECE department.

Information regarding Evaluations and Winning Submissions:

Reviewers: NDSU ECE faculty and at least one external reviewer evaluate the applications. All external reviewers will hold the applications in confidence and review them strictly for evaluative purposes.

Winning submissions: A brief description of winning submissions will be posted on the Hoaby Innovation Center website within a few months after the application due date. Students will be given an opportunity to review and comment on the description of their winning submission before it is posted. Students' comments will be taken into consideration before final editing and posting of the description. The Hoaby Innovation Center will exercise care to reasonably ensure that the element of an innovation that has patenting potential, if it exists, is not revealed or made public on the website, unless the element has already been made public.