



## **AFIA Invites Graduate Students to Present at the Pet Food Conference**

The American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) is pleased to announce an invited paper presentation opportunity for outstanding graduate students or post-doctoral students conducting research in the area of pet nutrition, pet food quality, the human-animal bond, pet food marketing or other pet food related fields. The papers chosen will be presented at the AFIA pet food conference on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at the International Production and Processing Expo.

The presenters will be selected by members of the AFIA pet food committee, based on relevance to the pet food industry, quality of the written submission and recommendation from the student's academic advisor. The submitted papers can either be a presentation of original research or an original compilation of information of current or emerging interest to the pet food industry. Graduate students who are not chosen as speakers will be invited to present their work as a poster.

Students should develop the topic as an industry or trade conference presentation rather than for a purely scientific audience. Emphasis should be on background and development of rationale with focus on conclusions and implications for the pet food industry. Attendees at the conference include representatives from all of the major pet food manufacturers and all professional roles within their companies.

**Submission guidelines:** All materials to be submitted to [lcalderwood@afia.org](mailto:lcalderwood@afia.org) by **Nov 4, 2024**.

**Use GRAD PAPER in the subject line of the submission**

1. A 500-word (maximum) outline of the chosen topic or research area. This does not need to be written in the format of a scientific abstract.
2. A statement of approval from the student's academic advisor including a brief description of student's public speaking skills.
3. A full curriculum vitae.

AFIA is pleased to offer the following support to developing researchers in the pet food industry:

1. The opportunity to speak to over 400 members of the pet food industry at the AFIA pet food conference.
2. Free admission to the AFIA pet food conference (including breaks and lunch).
3. For the three graduate students chosen as speakers, up to \$500 to cover transportation and hotel stay at the conference (paid upon submission of receipts).

*May 23, 2024*

***Our Industry. Our Passion. Our Voice.***