

Applicant: Cody Petrie  
Faculty Advisor: Kevin Schmidt

I am soon to be a fifth year graduate student in physics at ASU. I have completed my core courses with a GPA of 4.0. My research interests are aimed toward understanding one of the four fundamental forces in nature, the strong force. I do calculations that statistically solve for properties of nuclear systems, including nuclei and nuclear matter. I have completed my comprehensive exams and have successfully presented my prospectus to my research committee. We have recently submitted a paper on our work to the journal Physical Review C with a few of our collaborators. I work with Kevin Schmidt in the physics department who has instilled in me, by his example, a love for understanding and hard work. Currently I am visiting Los Alamos National Laboratory working with a few of our collaborators. While at ASU I have been a TA almost every semester teaching both in person and on-line physics labs on a variety of introductory physics topics. I have also been an adjunct faculty member at Mesa Community College teaching a combined physics lecture and lab course on Newtonian physics to beginning undergraduate students.

After graduate school and any needed post-doctoral positions, I would like to become a physics professor where I could instill in other young adults a love for learning and for physics. If needed I plan to work in the private sector or at a national laboratory before teaching, to get the needed experience to become a more effective and knowledgeable teacher.

I am applying for the following scholarships, Molecular Imaging Corporation Endowment, Wally Stoelzel Physics Scholarship and Fellowship and the William J. and Carol M. Motil Scholarship. I am a happy father of three kids, two boys and a baby girl. My wife and I try to instill in them our love for learning. I work hard to balance my responsibilities at home with my responsibilities at school and work. This scholarship would give me additional support, alleviating some of the financial burden associated with those responsibilities, ultimately allowing me to focus on the goals at hand.