Welcome!

Today’s session will begin shortly. There will be no audio sound until the session begins.
Zoom Webinar Reminders

• Zoom technical support at 1-888-799-9666, option 2

• Audio streamed through your speakers

• Submit questions at any time in the Q&A box at the bottom of your screen.

• Webinar recording, slides, and session summaries posted shortly after the event at thefdp.org

*If you are a member of the press, please identify yourself and your publication in the Q&A box.
ABOUT NSF GRFP

SINCE 1952
70,000+ GRFPs AWARDED

40+ FELLOWS HAVE GONE ON TO BECOME NOBEL LAUREATES
FELLOW FROM/IN EVERY STATE

450+ FELLOWS HAVE BECOME MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

$37,000 ANNUAL STIPEND

$12,000 COST OF EDUCATION ALLOWANCE

5-YEAR FELLOWSHIP PERIOD
3 YEARS FINANCIAL SUPPORT

~ Per Competition
12,000+ APPLICANTS
2,000+ OFFERS

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTED
500+

Submit Early

OPEN TO:
Individuals Pursuing RESEARCH-BASED MASTER’S & DOCTORAL DEGREES In Eligible Fields of Study

nsfgrfp.org
DECISION TREE
FORMAT COMPLIANCE CHECK

ELIGIBLE MAJOR FIELDS OF STUDY

CHEMISTRY
COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES & ENGINEERING
ENGINEERING
GEOSCIENCES
LIFE SCIENCES
MATERIALS RESEARCH
MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY
PSYCHOLOGY
SOCIAL SCIENCES
STEM EDUCATION & LEARNING RESEARCH

MAJOR FIELDS HAVE SUB-FIELDS
The overall goal of the Graduate Research Fellowship Program is to recruit individuals into Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) fields

- To select, recognize, and financially support individuals who have demonstrated the potential to be high achieving scientists and engineers, early in their careers.

- To broaden participation in science and engineering of underrepresented groups, including women, minorities, persons with disabilities, and veterans.
### NSF Graduate Research Fellowships

**Five Year Awards – $147,000***

**Three years of financial support**
- $37,000 stipend each year to the graduate institution
- $12,000 educational allowance directly to graduate institution
- In lieu of tuition *(paid by institution)* and fees

### Other NSF Opportunities
- INTERN – non-academic internship program
- FASED Individuals with Disabilities support
- Career-Life Balance Initiative (family leave)

*Amounts are based on GRFP Solicitation NSF 22-614 and subject to the availability of funds
• U.S. citizens, nationals, and permanent residents
• Early-career: undergrad & graduate students
• Pursuing research-based master’s and/or doctoral degrees (no professional degrees)
• Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM) or STEM Education
• Full-time enrollment in graduate degree program at accredited, non-profit US institution of higher education
• NO foreign institutions

Level 1: Seniors/bachelor's degree: no graduate study

Level 2: 1st-year graduate students
• Joint bachelor’s-master’s (completed 3 years)

Level 3: Second-year graduate students
• No more than 1 academic year completed in 1st graduate degree program
• For joint BS/MS holders ONLY, can apply as 1st year doctoral students if went directly into PhD program, after completing joint bachelor’s-master’s degree)

Level 4: Returning graduate students
• > 2-year interruption in graduate study
• No doctorates or >1 academic year in graduate program
• NOT ENROLLED in graduate program at application deadline
GRFP Application

Complete Application Package:


2) Personal, Relevant Background and Future Goals Statement (3-page PDF)

3) Graduate Research Statement (2-page PDF)

4) Transcripts (PDFs; mandatory)

5) Letters of reference (may provide up to five names of reference letter writers)
   - 3 reference letter writer names are mandatory and 2 reference letters are mandatory for application review
Example GRFP Pre-Post Award Schedule

Late October

- Applications Due
- Fellowship Offers

March – April

Shortly after application is due

- Reference Letters Due
- Acceptance of Award and Declaration of Tenure/Reserve

Early May

For Level 1 only

- Apply to Grad Schools!
- Fellowship Year Begins

Early September

Apply to Grad Schools!

For Level 1 only
DEADLINES (5 p.m. local applicant mailing address):

- Oct. 17, 2022: Life Sciences
- Oct. 18, 2022: CISE, Materials Research, Psychology, Social Sciences, STEM Education and Learning
- Oct. 20, 2022: Engineering
- Oct. 21, 2022: Chemistry, Geosciences, Math, Physics & Astronomy

Read the GRFP Solicitation for detailed application instructions and requirements

If accessibility accommodations are required, please contact info@nsfgrfp.org at least four weeks before the application deadline
**Personal, Relevant Background & Goals**

Tell your story; demonstrate your potential for STEM research

Experiences (professional and personal) that contributed to your motivation and preparation for pursuing a STEM career

**Career aspirations and future goals**

How have your experiences shaped your goals?

**Research, industrial, professional experience**

- What was the project, what was your role?
- How did you become involved? Where was it done?
- Why was this project worth doing? What have you learned? Any advanced course work?
- What was your contribution to the project and how did it fit into the whole?
Mentoring

Research Statement (2-page PDF)

Research Statement

Describe your proposed research plan:

• Communicate your research idea and approach
• Explain your research plan and methods
• What do you expect to learn? How will you know if the project is successful?
• What would you do next?

Keep in mind:

• Avoid jargon
• Communicate clearly for non-specialists
• Make your contributions clear

Clearly address NSF’s Merit Review Criteria – Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts – under separate headings
Reference Letters – Before the Deadline

• **MANDATORY** for Application Review
  - 3 names **must be listed** as part of the application
  - 2 reference letters **must be received** by NSF

• **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**
  - Up to 5 names of potential references can be listed
  - 3 reference letters received by NSF

• Applicants list and rank up to 5 reference letter writers
  - Top 3 will be seen by reviewers

Transcripts – Required

• All applicants **must** submit bachelor’s degree transcript
• Transcripts are **required** for all degree-programs
• Transcripts **required** for all graduate degree enrollment
• Official or unofficial transcripts accepted
Review

National Science Board Merit Review Criteria

Intellectual Merit
• How important is the proposed activity to advancing knowledge within its own field or across different fields?

Broader Impacts
• How well does the proposed activity benefit society or advance desired societal outcomes?
Comprehensive Review

Applicants are reviewed based on:
• Their demonstrated potential for significant achievement in STEM
• Using a comprehensive, holistic approach
• A balanced consideration to all components of the application
  • Including the educational and research record, leadership, outreach, service activities, plans for the future, individual competencies, experiences, and other attributes
**Intellectual Merit**

**Potential to advance knowledge**

**Evidence of potential, such as ability to:**

- Demonstrated intellectual ability (grades, curricula, awards, publications, presentations, etc.)
- Plan and conduct research
- Work as a member of a team as well as independently
- Interpret and communicate research
- Take initiative, solve problems, persist
- The potential of your approach to your major field of study and your Research Plan to advance knowledge

Evidence of Intellectual Merit can be found in all parts of the application: Personal Statement, Research Plan, letters, experiences, awards, achievements, and transcripts
Broader Impacts

Potential impact of the individual and/or the research on society; why it’s important

Societal benefits may include, but are not limited to:
- Increasing participation of underrepresented groups, women, persons with disabilities, veterans
- Outreach: Mentoring; improving STEM education in schools
- Increasing public scientific literacy; increased public engagement with STEM
- Community outreach: science clubs, radio, TV, newspapers, blogs
- Increasing collaboration between academia, industry, others

Evidence of Broader Impacts can be in all parts of the application: Personal Statement, Research Plan, letters, experiences, awards, achievements
Post-Award Administration

GRFP Administrative Guide (NSF 22-067)*

**GRFP Institutional Officials**
- Primary Coordinating Official (CO)
- Financial Official (FO)
- Principal Investigator (PI)
  - Graduate Dean
- Sponsored Project Office (SPO)

**Student/Fellow and Institutional Reporting**
- Fellows: Accept/Decline, Declare, Activities Report
- Institutions: Fellowship Declaration, Change Requests, GRR, Certifications, PER, Completion Report

New Fellows:
- Accept/Decline Fellowship Offer by deadline
- Re-certify program eligibility
- Verify contact information
- Submit Fellowship Status Declaration
- Begin Graduate program

Continuing Fellows:
- Prepare and submit Annual Activities Report by deadline
- Obtain signed Academic/Research Advisor Confirmation Form
- Re-certify eligibility compliance
- Verify contact information
- Submit Fellowship Declaration for next Fellowship Year
- Submit Change Requests

Institutions:
- Academic/Research Advisor to certify satisfactory progress and sign Academic/Research Advisor Confirmation Form
- Financial Official (FO) to submit Program Expense Report
- CO to submit Completion Report
- Review and approve Fellow Change Status Requests
- Update Completion Report
- Coordinating Official (CO) to certify Progress and submit Grants Roster Report
**GRFP Post Award Schedule**

**Jun - Jul**
- Summer Start
- GRR Due
- PER accrual
- AOR
- Funding Recommendation

**Aug**
- Review PER
- Notify NSF of Fellow record changes/updates
- Terminate non-compliant records

**Sept**
- Fall Start
- New Fellowship Year
- PER module open for submission

**Oct**
- New Fiscal Year Completion Report due

**Nov - Jan**
- *Fund shortfall after PER reconciliation*
  - *contingent upon availability of funds and status of the federal budget*

**Feb - May**
- Fellowship Declaration
GRFP Applicants: All new and previous GRFP Applicants must sign in to Research.gov to access the GRFP Module. Previous Applicants only need to register in Research.gov to access the GRFP Module.

- Applicant User Guide to Access the GRFP Module
- Frequently Asked Questions for New and Previous GRFP Applicants

GRFP Fellows: All GRFP Fellows must sign in to Research.gov to access the GRFP Module.

- GRFP Fellow Guide for Accessing GRFP Module
- Frequently Asked Questions for GRFP Fellows

GRFP Officials: GRFP Officials will continue to register for an NSF account and request user roles in Research.gov to conduct GRFP activities.

- How New GRFP Officials Register for an NSF Account to Access the GRFP Module
- Frequently Asked Questions for GRFP Officials
The NSF GRFP Office administers the Graduate Research Fellowship Program and is assisted at each NSF GRFP IHE by an Institutional representative designated as the CO. An IHE Directory of representatives of all NSF GRFP IHEs is available on the GRFP Online Module website. The IHE’s CO is the first point of contact for all Fellowship questions. A Fellow should first consult the CO, and if the CO cannot provide the requested information, only then contact the NSF GRFP Office.
Commonly asked questions:

• When will we receive our award?
• How do we report supplements?
• Unsatisfactory progress?
• PI changes
• How was the award amount calculated?
• Why did we receive a new award?
• Can we change the start date of an award?
• When to submit an NCE?
• May I change my Fellowship start?
• What if I miss a deadline?
  • Declaration deadline/ institutional reporting deadline
Thank you

Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

Education and Human Resources (EHR)
Division of Graduate Education (DGE)

www.nsf.gov/grfp
info@nsfgrfp.org
www.nsfgrfp.org