

National Science Foundation

2018 Graduate Research Fellowship Program

General Information

Program Synopsis

The purpose of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) is to help ensure the vitality and diversity of the scientific and engineering workforce of the United States. The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) or in STEM education. The GRFP provides three years of support for the graduate education of individuals who have demonstrated their potential for significant achievements in STEM or STEM education. NSF especially encourages women, members of underrepresented minority groups, persons with disabilities, veterans, and undergraduate seniors to apply.

The program is intended for students in the early stages of graduate study. The ranks of NSF Fellows include numerous individuals who have made transformative breakthrough discoveries in science and engineering, become leaders in their chosen careers, and been honored as Nobel laureates.

Applicants are urged to visit the NSF web page at <http://www.nsf.gov/> for more information and guidance about current and emerging themes for the NSF.

Eligibility (Please visit <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/> for detailed eligibility requirements.)

- Applicants must be United States citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the United States by the application deadline.
- Fellowships are awarded to individuals in the early stages of their graduate study. Individuals may apply as an undergraduate senior as well as post-baccalaureate, before beginning graduate training. Current graduate students are limited to only one application to the GRFP, submitted either in the first year or in the second year of graduate school.
- Fellowships are awarded for graduate study leading to research-based masters or doctoral degrees in the fields supported by the NSF (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

Stipends and Allowances

Each Fellowship consists of three years of support during a five-year fellowship period. NSF currently provides a stipend of \$34,000 to the Fellow and a cost-of-education allowance of \$12,000 to the graduate degree-granting institution for each Fellow utilizing the fellowship support in a fellowship year.

Anticipated Date of Award Notification

April 2018 for the 2018-2019 academic year

UC Berkeley NSF GRF Applicant Workshop

A workshop for applicants will be held *Wednesday, September 20 from 10:00 – 11:30 AM in 309 Sproul Hall.*

The workshop will provide valuable tips that will assist in strengthening applications. Speakers include one of UCB's NSF Fellowship Coordinators, a UCB professor that served on a previous year's NSF panel, and current UCB NSF fellows.

Important Resources

Graduate Division NSF GRFP Application Binder:

A binder of winning NSF applications submitted by UCB students is available for your reference in the Graduate Services: Fellowships Office, 318 Sproul Hall. The binder may be reviewed in 318 Sproul Hall only. A student photo ID is required.

NSF GRFP Fastlane: <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/>

All applicants are expected to apply electronically using NSF's FastLane. This site includes the Program Solicitation and an Applicant User Guide.

The NSF GRFP resource site is below: <http://www.nsfgrfp.org/>

NSF GRFP's own resource site which contains program information, tips on applying, a contact list of program experts and an FAQ.

GRF Operations Center: 866-NSF-GRFP (866-673-4737), info@nsfgrfp.org

Questions about the Application Process for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program

FastLane Help Desk: 1-800-673-6188, fastlane@nsf.gov

Questions about the use of FastLane

Application Deadline(s) (5:00 pm Local Time of applicant's mailing address):

October 23, 2017 (Monday): Geosciences, Life Sciences

October 24, 2017 (Tuesday): Computer and Information Science and Engineering, Engineering, Materials Research

October 26, 2017 (Thursday): Psychology, Social Sciences, STEM Education and Learning

October 27, 2017 (Friday): Chemistry, Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Astronomy

Reference Letters Must Be Submitted by 5:00 pm (ET) on November 2, 2017 (Thursday)

For further clarification of research areas supported by the NSF, see the National Science Foundation Guide to Programs: http://www.nsf.gov/funding/browse_all_funding.jsp

For more information on the applicant workshop, contact Rita Lindahl-Lynch of the Graduate Services: Fellowships Office, 318 Sproul Hall, 642-0673, r.lynch@berkeley.edu.

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