

National Science Foundation

2015 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 and engineering. The GRFP provides three years of support for the graduate education of individuals who have demonstrated their potential for significant achievements in science and engineering.

It is intended for students in the early stages of graduate study. The ranks of NSF Fellows include individuals who have made transformative breakthroughs in science and engineering research and have become leaders in their chosen careers and 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. Applicants must have completed no more than 12 months of full-time graduate study or its equivalent as of August 1, 2014.
- 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 provides a stipend of \$32,000 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. Pending the availability of funds in 2015, it is anticipated that the stipend will increase to \$34,000, as indicated in NSF's FY2015 Budget Request to Congress.

Anticipated Date of Award Notification

April 2015 for the 2015-2016 academic year

UC Berkeley NSF GRF Applicant Workshop

A workshop for applicants will be held *Thursday, September 18 from 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM in 370 Dwinelle Hall*. The location is noted in Berkeley's interactive map:

<http://www.berkeley.edu/map/3dmap/3dmap.shtml>

The workshop will provide valuable tips that will assist in strengthening applications. Speakers include UCB's NSF Fellowship Coordinator, a UCB professor that served on a previous year's NSF panel, and three current UCB NSF fellows from various NSF eligible disciplines.

Graduate Division NSF GRF bSpace

UC Berkeley provides an online resource center on bSpace for Berkeley administrators, advisors and students who are interested in the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRF). The Graduate Division NSF GRF bSpace provides centralized information regarding the fellowship and resources to assist in improving NSF GRF applications. Resources include videos of past NSF GRFP Applicant Workshops and a Mentorship Program.

To join Graduate Division NSF GRF bSpace, go to the bSpace site at <https://bspace.berkeley.edu>. You can login using your CalNet ID and password. From there, choose "Membership" from the choices offered under "Workspace Tools". Choose Joinable Sites. From there, use the search function to look for "Graduate Division NSF GRF bspace". Choose Join. You may see a message stating "There are no joinable sites matching your search". However, the new bSpace will appear as a tab near the top of the page.

UC Berkeley NSF GRF 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.

For more information on the applicant workshop and the Graduate Division NSF GRF bspace, contact Michael Sacramento of the Graduate Services: Fellowships Office, 318 Sproul Hall, 642-7739, msacram@berkeley.edu.

Application Deadlines - submitted by 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time

October 29, 2014

Engineering; Computer and Information Science and Engineering; Materials Research

October 30, 2014

Mathematical Sciences; Chemistry; Physics and Astronomy

November 03, 2014

Social Sciences; Psychology; STEM Education and Learning

November 04, 2014

Life Sciences; Geosciences

Three Reference Letters (must be received by November 6 by 8 p.m. Eastern Time)

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

All applicants are expected to apply electronically using the NSF's FastLane at
<https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/>

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

Questions about the Application Process for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program

GRF Operations Center

Phone: 866-NSF-GRFP (866-673-4737)

Email: info@nsfgrfp.org

Questions about the use of FastLane

FastLane Help Desk

telephone: 1-800-673-6188, e-mail: fastlane@nsf.gov