FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND FELLOWSHIPS THAT PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

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Overview

This report contains a list of federal government scholarship, fellowship, and internship programs that provide support for graduate students.

The federal government programs listed below are organized by the agency that runs the program. Within each agency, the programs are organized by the applying entity, e.g. whether the award is given to the institution or to individuals. For each opportunity, there is provided a program summary, eligibility requirements, size of the program, approximate size and type of award, citizenship requirements, annual due dates, and other special factors. The program websites are provided as a source for more detailed information.
Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The mission of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a bureau of the Department of Commerce (DOC), is to understand and predict changes in Earth’s environment and to conserve and manage coastal and marine resources. NOAA is organized according to line offices, including the National Weather Service, the National Ocean Service, and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, among others. The Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, which is where the majority of NOAA’s extramural research funding is maintained, is organized into three general research topic areas: Climate Research; Weather and Air Quality Research; and Ocean, Coastal and Great Lakes Research. The majority of NOAA research fellowship opportunities are in the ocean research area.

Individual Awards

Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program

- Overview: This program provides support for independent graduate-level research in oceanography, marine biology, or maritime archaeology. Women and members of minority groups are particularly encouraged to apply.
- Eligibility: Those eligible to apply are currently pursuing or intending to pursue a full-time master’s or doctoral level degree in oceanography, maritime archaeology, or marine biology. A 3.0 grade point average is required.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- Award/Program Size: Scholarships carry a 12-month stipend for each student of $30,000, an annual cost-of-education allowance of up to $12,000, as well as $10,000 to cover the costs of a four to six week research collaboration at a NOAA facility. Master’s students may be supported for up to two years (at a maximum of $94,000) and doctoral students for up to four years (at a maximum of $188,000). NOAA awards three to four scholarships each year.
- Due Date: Applications for the 2012-2013 academic year were due February 10, 2012. NOAA anticipates starting the awards on June 1, 2012. This is an annual program.


National Estuarine Research Reserve Systems (NERRS) Graduate Research Fellowship Program

- Overview: One of NOAA’s largest programs for graduate studies, this program provides support for fellows to conduct research at one of the 28 National Estuarine Research Reserves. The program’s focus areas are: nutrient dynamics and/or effects of non-point source pollution and eutrophication; habitat conservation and restoration; biodiversity and/or effects of invasive species; mechanisms of sustaining estuarine ecosystems; and
economic, sociological, and anthropological research applicable to estuarine ecosystem management.

- Eligibility: Applicants must be admitted to or enrolled in a full-time master’s or doctoral degree program at a U.S. accredited university.
- Citizenship: There is no citizenship requirement for this program.
- Award/Program Size: Fellows receive a stipend of $20,000 per year and may be funded up to three years. Selected students participate in the reserve’s research and/or monitoring, stewardship, education, or coastal training programs for up to 15 hours per week. Each of the 28 reserves funds two fellows per year.
- Due Date: The application deadline is November 1 of each year. However, the future of the program remains unknown as NOAA has proposed to cancel the fellowships in the FY 2013 budget request. Congressional action is still pending on the FY 2013 NOAA appropriations bill.
- Special Attention: This program requires an institutional match of 30 percent, either cash or in-kind. NOAA provides $20,000 (or 70 percent) and the non-federal match must supply $8,572 (or 30 percent).


Sea Grant/NOAA Fisheries Graduate Fellowship Program

- Overview: Supported by NOAA’s Fisheries Service and the National Sea Grant Office, this fellowship targets doctoral students studying either marine population dynamics or marine resource economics.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled as a Ph.D. student in a U.S. university or college to apply.
- Citizenship: There is no citizenship requirement.
- Award/Program Size: Student awards totaling $38,500 per year per student are provided through a cooperative agreement with state Sea Grant Programs. Funds may be used toward living expenses, tuition, and travel necessary to carry out thesis research. Typically, at least two fellowships are funded each year for each discipline.
- Due Date: Applications must be submitted by a state Sea Grant program. The most recent deadline for applications was January 20, 2012. No future deadline has been announced yet.

National Institute of Standards and Technology

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), promotes U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology. NIST is organized into four laboratories: Material Measurement, Physical Measurement, Engineering, and Information Technology. It also has a Center for Neutron Research and a Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology.

Individual Awards

NIST Measurement Science and Engineering Fellowships

- Overview: This fellowship program supports graduate students, post-doctoral, and senior researchers conducting research in existing programs at NIST’s campuses at Gaithersburg, MD or Boulder, CO, or at the Hollings Marine Laboratory (HML) in Charleston, SC. The University of Maryland (UM) and the University of Colorado-Boulder administer this program.
- Eligibility: Graduate students remain enrolled in their home institutions but are located at the NIST laboratories. NIST laboratories conduct research in a wide variety of areas; applicants must identify the research areas of greatest interest to themselves. For reference, qualified degree areas listed are biology, biochemistry, bioengineering, bioinformatics, biophysics, cell biology, molecular biology, chemistry, chemical engineering, computer science, electrical engineering, fire protection engineering, mechanical engineering, structural engineering, materials science, mathematics, physics, or allied fields.
- Citizenship: There is no citizenship requirement for the fellowships.
- Award/Program Size: For the graduate program, NIST provides $30,000 per year for salary or the appropriate amount determined by the fellow’s home institution. Funding for the program was provided under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 and is set to last until 2012.
- Due Date: The due date for the 2011-2012 school year have passed. There is no information about whether the program will continue after 2012. For more information on the fellowships offered by each institution, please see http://www.nistfellows.umd.edu/ and http://www.colorado.edu/nistfellows/.

Department of Defense

The Department of Defense (DOD) funds research that is relevant to its mission, predominately drawing from engineering, computer/information science, and physical sciences. However, DOD also provides some limited research and education opportunities in foreign languages, social sciences, and medical and life sciences.

Individual Awards

National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship (NDSEG)

- Overview: This program is a competitive, portable fellowship that is awarded to students who intend to pursue graduate study in one of the 15 supported disciplines: Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering; Biosciences; Chemical Engineering; Chemistry; Civil Engineering; Cognitive, Neural, and Behavioral Sciences; Computer and Computational Sciences; Electrical Engineering; Geosciences; Materials Science and Engineering; Mathematics; Mechanical Engineering; Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering; Oceanography; and Physics.
- Eligibility: Applicants should be either enrolled in their last year of college or first two years of graduate study in the field for which they are applying.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- Award/Program Size: The DOD awarded approximately 200 new three-year graduate fellowships in April 2012. NDSEG Fellowships last for three years and pay for full tuition and all mandatory fees, a monthly stipend, and up to $1,000 a year in medical insurance. The stipend increases from $30,500 in the first year to $31,500 in the third year.
- Due Date: The online application for the 2013 fellowship will be available in September 2012.


Science Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship for Service Program

- Overview: This program allows students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines to receive a full scholarship in exchange for serving at internships at DOD facilities and working for DOD after graduation. Students pursuing degrees related to the following are encouraged to apply: Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering; Biosciences; Chemical Engineering; Chemistry; Civil Engineering; Cognitive, Neural, and Behavioral Sciences; Computer and Computational Sciences; Electrical Engineering; Geosciences; Industrial and Systems Engineering; Information Sciences; Materials Science and Engineering; Mathematics; Mechanical Engineering; Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering; Nuclear Engineering; Oceanography; Operations Research; and, Physics.
Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled in a graduate program at an academic institution or have acceptance for entrance for the fall 2012 semester.

Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

Award/Program Size: Participants receive full tuition and education related fees; cash award paid at a rate of $25,000 to $41,000 depending on prior educational experience; paid summer internships; health insurance reimbursement allowance up to $1,200 per calendar year; book allowance of $1,000 per academic year; mentoring; and employment placement after graduation. SMART awards may range from one academic term to five academic years.

Due Date: The application period for 2012 closed on December 15, 2011. Applications are expected to reopen in August 2012.

Special Attention: Participants must be able to participate in summer internships at DOD laboratories and willing to accept post-graduate employment with the DOD. Participants must also have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.


National Security Education Program (NSEP)

Overview: This program supports the study of under-represented languages and areas critical to U.S. national security. The David L. Boren Graduate Fellowship is geared towards graduate students. The Fellowship provides support for overseas study as well as a small supplement for domestic study. This program requires recipients to work for the federal government for at least a year following graduation.

Eligibility: Students must be enrolled in a graduate program at a U.S. academic institution. All applicants must demonstrate how their study programs are connected to achieving a better understanding of national security.

Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

Award/Program Size: The Boren Fellowship provides 12 weeks minimum and two years maximum (maximum one year overseas) of support. The program provides up to $24,000 for overseas study, up to $12,000 as a domestic study supplement, and $30,000 for combined overseas/domestic study. Programs can begin no earlier than June 1, 2012 and no later than March 1, 2013.

Due Date: The application deadline for 2012 has passed but the 2013 application will be available in late-August 2012.

Department of Education

The Department of Education offers a number of discretionary grants in the areas of the enhancement of education policy, educational environments, and educator capabilities. Most of the graduate fellowship support programs are run by the Office of Post-Secondary Education, which is responsible for developing and implementing post-secondary education policy while simultaneously increasing quality and access.

Institution Awards

Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN)

- Overview: This program provides fellowships, through university academic departments and programs, to assist graduate students with excellent records who demonstrate financial need and plan to pursue the highest degree available in their course study at the institution. Grants are awarded to programs and institutions to sustain and enhance the capacity for teaching and research in the following areas of national need: area studies, biological sciences/life sciences, chemistry, computer and information sciences, engineering, foreign languages and literature, mathematics, nursing, physics, education evaluation/research/statistics.
- Eligibility: Academic departments and programs of institutions of higher education that provide courses of study leading to a graduate degree may apply. Fellows must be enrolled as graduate students, have financial need, and be planning a career in teaching or research. The academic program must have been in existence for at least four years.
- Citizenship: Fellows must be citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: The average award amount in the last round of funding was $175,900. Grants are for a maximum of three annual budget periods during a three-year project period. The number of fellowships awarded per institution can range from three to ten.
- Due Date: Applications for the fiscal year (FY) 2012 cycle were due on January 20, 2012. Future dates have not yet been announced.
- Special Attention: An institution must provide an institutional matching contribution equal to at least 25 percent.


Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad

- Overview: This program provides grants to colleges and universities to fund individual doctoral students who conduct research in other countries, in modern foreign languages and area studies for periods of six to 12 months.
- Eligibility: Institutions of higher education are eligible to apply. Graduate students in doctoral programs in the fields of foreign languages and area studies must apply through the institutions in which they are enrolled.
• Citizenship: Students are eligible to receive a fellowship if they are citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.

• Award/Program Size: In FY 2010, the most recent year awards were given out, the Department of Education issued 164 new fellowships for a total of approximately $6.4 million. The average fellowship award was $38,824. No new awards were announced in FY 2011.

• Due Date: For FY 2012, the application deadline is June 14, 2012.

• Special Attention: Eligible students must be planning a teaching career in the U.S. upon graduation.


Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships Program

• Overview: This program provides academic year and summer fellowships to institutions of higher education to assist meritorious undergraduate students and graduate students undergoing training in modern foreign languages and related area or international studies.

• Eligibility: Institutions of higher education are eligible to apply. Institutions conduct competitions to select eligible undergraduate students and graduate students to receive fellowships.

• Citizenship: Students are eligible for fellowships if they are citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.

• Award/Program Size: FLAS grants are awarded to institutions for a four-year project period. In FY 2011 the average award was $280,000. Because of the current funding scenario, no new awards were announced in FY 2011. There will likely be no new awards made in FY 2012, and instead, funding will go to continuation of existing awards.

• Due Date: The upcoming dates have not been announced.

Department of Energy

The Department of Energy (DOE) funds research that is relevant to its mission of advancing the national, economic, and energy security of the U.S. DOE supports research in a broad range of basic and applied sciences. It is the principal federal funding agency of research programs in high-energy physics, nuclear physics, and fusion energy sciences. It also manages fundamental research programs in basic energy sciences, biological and environmental sciences, and computational science and is the federal government's largest single provider of funds for materials and chemical sciences. Other research areas include climate change, geophysics, genomics, life sciences, nanotechnology, fossil energy, and nuclear medicine.

Individual Awards

Graduate Fellowship Program

- Overview: This program supports outstanding students to pursue graduate training in basic research in areas of physics, biology, chemistry, mathematics, engineering, computational sciences, and environmental sciences relevant to the DOE Office of Science and to encourage the development of the next generation of scientific and technical talent in the U.S.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be a first-year or second-year full-time graduate student in a qualified research-focused master’s or Ph.D. program in physics, chemistry, biology (non-medical), mathematics, engineering, computer science, or specific areas of environmental sciences. The master’s or Ph.D. degree program pursued must require a research thesis/dissertation.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- Award/Program Size: The duration of the fellowship is three years. Fellows will receive a yearly stipend of $35,000 for general living expenses. Fellows are eligible to receive up to $10,500 towards university tuition and fees. Fellows will also receive a research stipend of $5,000 per year.
- Due Date: The most recent application deadline was January 4, 2012. The future of the program is unclear as the Budget Request proposed no funds for fellowships in Fiscal Year (FY) 2013.


Computational Science Graduate Fellowship (CSGF) Program

- Overview: This program provides opportunities to students pursuing a Ph.D. in scientific or engineering disciplines utilizing computing or mathematics for their research.
- Eligibility: College seniors or first year graduate students in the physical, engineering, computer, mathematical, or life sciences are eligible to apply.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be either citizens or permanent residents of the U.S.
• Award/Program Size: Support of this fellowship is limited to four years and must be renewed each year. The fellowship provides full tuition and required fees, a yearly stipend of $36,000, and $5,000 academic allowance in the first year of the fellowship and $1,000 each renewed year thereafter.

• Due Date: The 2012 fellowship application period ended January 10, 2012. The next round of deadlines has not been announced yet.

• Special Attention: A new policy was initiated during the 2010-2011 award cycle. For the 2010 and future cycles, applications will only be considered for study in departments that certify that no more than one term of teaching, grading or other departmental support activities are required of students in the applicant’s department or if there are requirements to teach, grade or provide other departmental support for more than one term, they will be waived for the CSGF fellows.


Internships

DOE offers a variety of internship opportunities for students in DOE-related fields. Below is a list of internships for graduate students along with links to the specific website for more information.

• DOE Scholars Program  http://orise.orau.gov/doescholars/ (accessed June 1, 2012)

• Minority Educational Institution Student Partnership Program (MEISPP)  http://doeminorityinternships.org/ (accessed June 1, 2012)

Department of Health and Human Services

National Institutes of Health

The primary function of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is to support biomedical and health-related research. Included in this mission is research on the behavioral and social impacts of individuals and society as related to public health. Please refer to each program’s corresponding link to see which of NIH’s 27 Institutes and Centers (ICs), as well as which agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), are collaborating on each program and to determine the areas of graduate study that are relevant.

Institution Awards

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Institutional Research Training Grants (T32)

- **Overview:** The purpose of this program is to provide predoctoral and postdoctoral research training opportunities for individuals interested in pursuing research careers in biomedical, behavioral and clinical research. Training activities can be in basic biomedical or clinical sciences, in behavioral or social sciences, in health services research, or in any other discipline relevant to the NIH mission.
- **Eligibility:** Only domestic, non-profit, private or public institutions may apply for grants to support NRSA institutional research training programs. The applicant institution must have a strong and high quality research program in the area(s) proposed for research training and must have the requisite staff and facilities on site to conduct the proposed research training program. The training principal investigator (PI) should be an established basic, behavioral, and/or clinical researcher.
- **Citizenship:** The individuals to be trained must be citizens, nationals, or residents of the U.S.
- **Award/Program Size:** Awards may be made for periods up to five years and are renewable. Applicants should request full needs for tuition and fees. The number of awards is contingent upon NIH appropriations, and the submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications. Stipends are also provided as a subsistence allowance for trainees to help defray living expenses during the research training experience and are based on a 12-month appointment period.
- **Due Date:** Applications are due in three annual cycles: January 25, May 25, and September 25. Please note, applicants should check with the relevant IC since some do not accept T series applications for all three cycles.

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Short-Term Institutional Research Training Grants (T35)

- Overview: The objective of this program is to develop or enhance research training opportunities for individuals interested in careers in biomedical, behavioral and clinical research. The program provides short-term support for a period of at least eight, but no more than 12 weeks in a grant year for full-time training experiences under the supervision of experienced researchers. Many of the NIH ICs use this grant mechanism exclusively to support intensive, short-term research training experiences for students in health professional schools during the summer. The program may also be used to support other types of predoctoral and postdoctoral training in focused, often emerging scientific areas relevant to the mission of the NIH funding ICs.
- Eligibility: Only domestic, non-profit, private or public institutions may apply for grants to support NRSA institutional research training programs. The applicant institution must have a strong and high quality research program in the area(s) proposed for research training and must have the requisite staff and facilities on site to conduct the proposed research training program. The training PI should be an established basic, behavioral, and/or clinical researcher.
- Citizenship: The individuals to be trained must be citizens, nationals, or residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: Tuition, fees, and health insurance are allowable trainee costs. Grantee institutions will receive a facilities and administrative allowance at 8 percent of total direct costs rather than on the basis of a negotiated rate agreement.
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: January 25, May 25, and September 25. Please note, applicants should check with the relevant IC since some do not accept T series applications for all three cycles.


Individual Awards

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for Individual Predoctoral Fellows (Parent F31)

- Overview: The purpose of this individual predoctoral research training fellowship is to provide support for promising doctoral candidates who will be performing dissertation research and training in scientific health-related fields relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers (ICs).
- Eligibility: The applicant must be at the dissertation research stage of their training and must show evidence of both high academic performance in the sciences and substantial interest in a research area of high priority to the participating IC.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be citizens, nationals, or residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: This award will provide up to five years of support for research training which leads to the Ph.D. or equivalent research degree, the combined MD/Ph.D.
degree, or another formally combined professional degree and research doctoral degree in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences.

- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: April 8, August 8, and December 8.
- Special Attention: Before submitting a fellowship application, the applicant must also identify a sponsoring institution. The sponsoring institution must have appropriate staff and facilities available on site to provide a suitable environment for performing high-quality research training and be demonstrably committed to research training in the particular program proposed by the applicant.


**Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for Individual Predoctoral Fellowships to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research (Parent F31 - Diversity)**

- Overview: The purpose of this fellowship is to improve the diversity of the health-related research workforce by supporting the training of predoctoral students from groups that have been shown to be underrepresented. The award will provide support for promising doctoral candidates who will be performing dissertation research and training in scientific health-related fields relevant to the missions of the participating IC.
- Eligibility: For the purpose of this announcement, institutions are encouraged to identify fellowship applicants who will increase diversity on a national or institutional basis. NIH is particularly interested in encouraging the recruitment and retention of the following classes of candidates: individuals from racial and ethnic groups that are underrepresented in health-related sciences, individuals with disabilities, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be citizens, nationals, or residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: The size and duration of awards varies. The project period may not exceed five years and is often limited to two to three years.
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: April 8, August 8, and December 8.


**Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for Individual Predoctoral MD/Ph.D. and Other Dual Doctoral Degree Fellows (Parent F30)**

- Overview: The purpose of this award is to provide support to individuals for combined MD/Ph.D. and other dual doctoral degree training. This funding opportunity supports individual predoctoral F30 fellowships with the expectation that these training opportunities will increase the number of future investigators with both clinical knowledge and skills in basic, translational or clinical research.
- Eligibility: The participating NIH Institutes award this fellowship to qualified applicants with the potential to become productive, independent, highly trained physician-scientists and other clinician-scientists, including patient-oriented researchers in their scientific mission
areas. An applicant must have a baccalaureate degree and show evidence of both high academic performance in the sciences and substantial interest in research in areas of high priority to the participating Institutes.

- Citizenship: Applicants must be citizens, nationals, or residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: The size and duration of awards varies. The total amount awarded and the number of awards will depend upon the mechanism numbers, quality, duration, and costs of the applications received.
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: April 8, August 8, and December 8.
- Special Attention: The applicant must be enrolled in a formally combined MD/Ph.D. (or DO/Ph.D., DDS/Ph.D., or AuD/Ph.D.) program, and be supervised by a sponsor for the research doctoral component.


**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

The mission of the CDC is to protect and improve public health through information that enhances health decision-making and partnerships with state health departments and other organizations. The CDC focuses on developing and applying disease prevention and control policies, especially in infectious diseases, environmental health, occupational safety and health, health promotion, prevention and education activities.

*Individual Awards*

**Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) Fellowship Programs**

- Overview: There are two EID fellowship programs: the EID Advanced Laboratory Training Fellowship is a one-year program for undergraduate and graduate level scientists, “with emphasis on the practical application of technologies, methodologies, and practices related to emerging infectious diseases.” The EID Laboratory Research Fellowship is a two-year program for doctoral level (Ph.D., MD or DVM) scientists “to conduct high-priority research in infectious diseases.”
- Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled in bachelor’s, master’s or doctoral program at an accredited university. Research or areas of training of the applicants include: “development and evaluation of diagnostic techniques, antimicrobial sensitivity and resistance, principles and practices of vector or animal control, emerging pathogens and laboratory-epidemiology interaction.”
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- Award/Program Size: Fellows are placed in local, state, or federal (CDC) public health laboratories throughout the U.S. Fellows are provided with a stipend, medical insurance, travel to the host laboratory, and a professional development allowance.
- Due Date: The most recent application deadline was February 10, 2012. Upcoming application dates have not been announced.
• Special Attention: Applicants must be able to start at the host laboratory as well as participate in the orientation session at CDC in Atlanta following the program timeline. (http://www.aphl.org/mycareer/fellowships/eid/Pages/EIDLaboratoryFellowshipsTimeline.aspx)


**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), works to improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of healthcare. The research sponsored and conducted by AHRQ addresses issues of organization, delivery, financing, utilization, patient and provider behavior, outcomes, effectiveness, and cost. These scientific results improve the evidence base to enable better decisions about health care, including in such areas as disease prevention, appropriate use of medical technologies, improving diagnosis and treatment in cost-effective ways, long-term care, and reducing racial and ethnic disparities.

**Individual Awards**

**Health Services Research Dissertation Program**

• **Overview:** This program provides support to individuals who are conducting research undertaken as part of an academic program to qualify for a doctorate degree relating to healthcare quality. Research applications must address one of these areas: (1) Safety/quality – Reduce the risk of harm from health care services by promoting the delivery of appropriate care that achieves the best quality outcomes; (2) Efficiency – Achieve wider access to effective health care services and reduce health care costs; (3) Effectiveness – Assure that providers and consumers/patients use beneficial and timely health care information to make informed decision choices.

• **Eligibility:** Eligible applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral program in such fields as the social or behavioral sciences, health services research, social sciences, epidemiology, biostatistics, health policy, and health informatics. Applicants must have completed all non-dissertation requirements for their doctoral degree by the time of submission of the application.

• **Citizenship:** Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents.

• **Award/Program Size:** Total award size and number of awards depends on the number of applications that AHRQ receives. The total direct cost awarded must not exceed $40,000 for the entire project period. Project periods must be a minimum of nine months but may not exceed 17 months.

• **Due Date:** Applications are due annually February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.

Internships

AHRQ supports paid internships in the summer for both undergraduate and graduate level students interested in health services research. The internships are at AHRQ’s office in Rockville. Each summer AHRQ accepts about 20 students to the program, which provides a good opportunity to connect with practitioners in the health services research community. The internship usually runs from May through August. Currently there is not a website for the AHRQ Internship program because it has already started for 2012. Usually AHRQ begins its internship process in February. Information for the 2013 internship program will be posted on usajobs.gov.


Health Resources and Services Administration

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is the primary federal agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated or medically vulnerable. The Bureau of Health Professions within HRSA increases access to health care by developing, distributing and retaining a diverse, culturally competent health workforce.

Institution Awards

Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students

- Overview: This program promotes diversity among health professions students by providing scholarships for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Health professions and nursing schools apply for funds to make scholarships to students from disadvantaged backgrounds, which have financial need for scholarships and are enrolled, or accepted for enrollment, as full-time students at the schools.
- Eligibility: Eligible applicants are accredited schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, podiatric medicine, optometry, veterinary medicine, public health, chiropractic, allied health, a school offering a graduate program in behavioral and mental health practice, or an entity providing programs for the training of physician assistants. To be eligible, applicants must also be carrying out a program to recruit and retain students from disadvantaged backgrounds, including students who are members of racial and ethnic minority groups. Applicants must demonstrate that the program has achieved success based on the percentage of disadvantaged students who are enrolled and have graduated from the school.
- Award/Program Size: The estimated total amount for the current competition is $46 million with approximately 400 awards being given out.
- Due Date: The most recent application deadline was January 26, 2011. The upcoming dates have not yet been announced.
Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training Grant

- Overview: The specific goal of the program is to strengthen the clinical field competencies of social workers and psychologists who pursue clinical service with high need and high demand populations. This program recognizes the high need and high demand experienced by military personnel and veterans, as well as the impact of war and deployment on their families.
- Eligibility: Eligible applicants are accredited schools and programs of social work, and accredited doctoral psychology schools, programs and pre-degree internship organizations (public and private nonprofit). Applicants for the social work program must be accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Psychology schools, programs, and internship organizations must be accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). Applicants must provide the appropriate documentation of accreditation with their application.
- Award/Program Size: The estimated total amount of the current competition is projected to be $10 million for an estimated 20 awards.
- Due Date: Applications are due June 22, 2012

Health Careers Opportunity Program (HCOP)

- Overview: The HCOP program provides students from disadvantaged backgrounds an opportunity to develop the skills needed to successfully compete, enter and graduate from health professions schools.
- Eligibility: Eligible applicants are accredited schools of medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, nursing, pharmacy, podiatric medicine, optometry, veterinary medicine, public health, chiropractic, allied health, a school offering a graduate program in behavioral and mental health practice, or an entity providing programs for the training of physician assistants.
- Award/Program Size: The estimated amount of this competition is $3 million. There are approximately three awards, with an average size of $932,016 per award.
• Due Date: The upcoming dates have not yet been announced. For FY 2012, no new competition was offered but instead, due to funding cuts, grantees were selected from the best-rated approved, unfunded projects from the FY 2011 competition.

• Special Attention: A funding preference will be given to approved applications for programs that involve a comprehensive approach by several public or nonprofit private health or educational programs that will result in the development of a competitive applicant pool of individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who desire to pursue health professions careers.


Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is the implementation arm for social and behavioral intervention and prevention strategies in public health. While much of SAMHSA’s discretionary funds go to state and local governments or to support the health workforce, opportunities to implement SAMHSA initiatives for which nonprofit entities (such as universities) are eligible are occasionally offered.

Individual Awards

Minority Fellowship Program

• Overview: The goal of this program is to increase the pool of professionals qualified to provide leadership, consultation, training, and administration to government, public and private organizations that develop and implement programs for under-served ethnic minority persons with mental and/or substance abuse disorders. This program provides grants to encourage and facilitate the doctoral and post-doctoral development of minority nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers. The program is managed by five associations: American Nurses Association (ANA), American Psychiatric Association (ApA), Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), American Psychological Association (APA), and American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). In order to receive an award, students must apply through one of the aforementioned associations. Overall, the program distributed approximately $4 million in fiscal year 2011.

• Eligibility:
  o ANA — Applicants must be a member of an ethnic or racial minority group: Asian or Asian American, Black or African American, Hispanic, or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander. Applicants must be a registered nurse and have a master’s degree in psychiatric or mental health nursing or a related field and pursuing a doctoral degree in their field. Applicants must be an ANA member and able to demonstrate a commitment to a research career in nursing and
substance abuse and/or psychiatric or mental health issues affecting minority populations. Preferably, the fellowship guidelines recommend that all applicants should have completed one year of graduate studies prior to applying to the MFP.

- ApA — Applicants must be psychiatry residents-in-training and remain in training during the entire academic year. Applicants must be ApA members. All applicants are welcome to apply regardless of race or ethnicity but must demonstrate their commitment to serve ethnic minority populations.

- CSWE — Applicants must have a master’s degree in social work and be starting full-time study leading to a doctoral degree in social work or be currently enrolled as full-time students in a doctoral social work program. All applicants are welcome to apply regardless of race or ethnicity but must demonstrate a commitment to a career providing mental health and substance abuse services to ethnic, racial, social, and cultural minorities.

- APA — Applicants must demonstrate a strong commitment to a career in ethnic minority mental health and substance abuse services. Applicants should be enrolled full-time in an APA-accredited doctoral program. African American, Alaskan Native, American Indian, Asian American, Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students are especially encouraged to apply.

- AAMFT — The program is open to all full-time doctoral students in marriage and family therapy doctoral programs that demonstrate a strong commitment to a career in ethnic minority mental health and substance abuse services. This fellowship is aimed at Marriage and Family Therapy doctoral students specializing in providing substance abuse and mental health services to minority and underserved populations. African American, Alaskan Native, American Indian, Asian American, Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students are especially encouraged to apply.

- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

- Award/Program Size:
  - ANA — Fellowships are renewed on an annual basis. The Fellowship is usually awarded for 10 to 12 months. A fellow who wishes to receive continual awards for the maximum five years must complete a progress report each year. Renewals are not automatic. The annual stipend amounts vary from year to year depending on federal allocations to the MFP.
  - ApA — Fellows receive monthly stipends and serve for one year with an opportunity to apply for an additional year. The annual stipend amounts vary from year to year depending on federal allocations to the MFP.
  - CSWE — Fellows receive monthly stipends for a one year period to defray living expenses; some tuition support may be provided depending on the availability of funds. The duration of the award is three years contingent upon funding and the fellow maintaining satisfactory progress towards degree objectives.
  - APA — Fellows receive financial support for a maximum of three year and must be renewed annually. There is limited availability for dissertation support.
  - AAMFT — Fellows receive $20,000 per year for a maximum of three years and must be renewed annually.

- Due Dates:
- ANA — Application are due March 1 annually.
- ApA — Applications are due January 30 annually.
- CSWE — Applications are due February or March annually.
- APA — Applications are due in January annually.
- AAMFT — Applications are due in March annually.

● Special Attention: Eligibility has been expanded for the FY 2012 competition to include professional counselors.

Department of State

The Department of State supports a limited number of international social science grants each year. Many of these grants focus on international public policy, governance, and/or human rights. Expectations for solicitation announcements and due dates vary by program.

Individual Awards

Fulbright Grants for Graduate Study and Research Abroad

- Overview: This program is an international educational exchange program designed to increase mutual understanding between Americans and people of other countries. The program provides participants, chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential, with the opportunity to study, teach, and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns. Fulbright projects span every major discipline, and recipients carry out a wide variety of unique projects and activities while on their grant.
- Eligibility: The Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers fellowships for U.S. graduate students to study, conduct research, and/or teach English abroad. The Fulbright Foreign Student Program offers opportunities for foreign graduate students to study, conduct research, and/or teach their native language in the U.S.
- Citizenship: U.S. applicants (U.S. citizens) apply either through their university or college or at-large to the cooperating agency responsible for the program in which they are interested. Non-U.S. applicants (non-U.S. citizens) apply to either the Fulbright Commission in their country of citizenship or the U.S. Embassy in their country of citizenship (in countries where there is not a Fulbright Commission).
- Award/Program Size: The Fulbright Program awards approximately 8,000 new grants annually. In 2011, the Congressional appropriation was $237.4 million. Foreign governments contributed an additional $85.2 million in fiscal year 2010 in direct and in-kind support.
- Due Date: Applications for the 2013-2014 academic year are due October 17, 2012.

Environmental Protection Agency

Science guides the regulatory decision-making of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Utilizing intramural EPA laboratories as well as the extramural research community, the EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD) conducts research on topics such as air and water quality, ecosystem assessment and restoration, climate change, impacts to human health, and pollution prevention. ORD is the research arm of EPA.

EPA has limited extramural opportunities for university researchers given that EPA, like a number of other agencies, utilizes its own labs and federal experts. That being said, opportunities exist to complement EPA research efforts. Among these are a variety of fellowship programs at undergraduate, master’s and doctoral levels to nurture an environmental workforce.

Individual Awards

Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Fellowships for Graduate Environmental Study

- **Overview:** This program supports master’s and doctoral candidates in environmental studies. Students can pursue degrees either in traditional environmental disciplines or in other fields such as social anthropology, urban and regional planning, and decision sciences.
- **Eligibility:** Applicants must be pursuing a master’s or doctoral degree in an environmental field of specialization at a fully accredited U.S. college or university.
- **Citizenship:** Applicants must be either U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- **Award/Program Size:** EPA selects about 100 fellows each year. The term of a graduate fellowship is negotiated with students and customarily covers a period of nine to 12 months for each fellowship. The funding supports full-time 2-year master’s or 3-year doctoral degree students, and provides up to $37,000 per year for monthly stipend, tuition, fees, and other authorized expenses.
- **Due Date:** There is an announcement for applicants every year in August with applications due in November.
- **Special Attention:** Applicants who are in a graduate program and have completed more than one year in their current master’s program or have completed more than four years in their current doctoral program are not eligible.


Internships

National Network for Environmental Management Studies (NNEMS)

- **Overview:** The purpose of this program is to provide research experiences at EPA to encourage the pursuit of and training for environmental careers. A list of specific research
projects is developed each year, targeting students with specific research interests. For example, research projects for the 2012 fellowships included: “Linkages between Air Quality and Climate,” “Green Infrastructure Site Location Decision Support Tool,” and “Alternative Fuels Production and Air Quality.” These projects change each year based on EPA research needs and priorities. Students can complete their fellowships working full-time during the summer or on a part-time basis during the academic.

- **Eligibility:** The program is only available to undergraduate- and graduate-level students pursuing an educational program directly related to pollution control or environmental protection during the fellowship. Undergraduates must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0.
- **Citizenship:** Applicants must be either U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- **Award/Program Size:** Recipients of the fellowships receive a stipend based on the student’s level of education and the duration and location of the project. Each recipient receives a stipend based upon the federal government’s General Schedule (GS) system. For example, freshmen students are paid at the GS-04 scale and advanced graduate students are paid at the GS-09 scale. Rates for the 2012 GS pay scale are available at [http://www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/indexGS.asp](http://www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/indexGS.asp). Stipends can be increased to allow for costs associated with travel or training. While typically 30 to 40 fellowships are funded each year, EPA expects to award only 10 to 15 fellowships in 2012 for a total cost of $100,000.
- **Due Date:** Applications for 2012 were due on January 30, 2012. The 2013 deadline has not yet been announced.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) conducts space exploration work in five principal categories: Science, Aeronautics, Space Technology, Exploration, and Operations. The Science directorate explores the Earth, Sun, planets, and the universe. The Aeronautics mission directorate designs and tests new flight technologies that bolster exploration and lead to improved flight capabilities on Earth. The Exploration and Operations directorates concentrate on the International Space Station and developing new methods for human exploration in space. The Space Technology program invests in potentially game-changing technology with applications across NASA mission directorates. In education, NASA activities include support for scientific training in fields relevant to NASA’s mission as well as general outreach using space to inspire interest in technical issues and careers.

Individual Awards

Space Technology Research Fellowships

- Overview: The Space Technology Research Fellowships support graduate and doctoral students pursuing research related to the development of technologies to support the future space science and exploration needs of NASA. The fellowship supports research at a fellow’s home institution as well as supports time at NASA Centers, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and/or not-for-profit research and development laboratories.
- Eligibility: Students must be pursuing a master’s or doctoral degree related to NASA research and development in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The Fellowship is available only to students who have not completed more than 24 months of full-time graduate study by one year in advance of the fellowship’s start. For example, for the 2012 competition, students may not have completed more than 24 months of full-time graduate study by August 1, 2011.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: The 12-month award provides a maximum student stipend of $36,000 in addition to allowances for health insurance, tuition and fees, on-site NASA center experience, and faculty advisers. The maximum annual amount of an award is $66,000. Awards may be renewed for three additional years of support.
- Due Dates: Applications were due January 11, 2012. Future due dates have not yet been announced.

National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program

- Overview: The National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program (Space Grant) is a national network of colleges and universities, which includes over 850 affiliates from universities, colleges, industry, museums, science centers, and state and local agencies. These affiliates belong to one of 52 consortia in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Each of the 52 consortia funds fellowships and scholarships for students pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), as well as curriculum enhancement and faculty development. A goal of the program is to recruit and train U.S. citizens (especially women, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities) for careers in aerospace science and technology. Consortia are required to provide a specific target percentage for participation of female and underrepresented minority students in fellowship and scholarship programs.

- Eligibility: Graduate students from a variety of STEM disciplines are eligible for fellowships which enable them either to initiate or to continue research in their own fields and complete their studies. Eligibility details vary from institution to institution.

- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

- Award/Program Size: The size and duration of the fellowship awards vary at each institution.

- Due Dates: Due dates vary at each institution.


Jenkins Pre-doctoral Fellowship Project (JPFP)

- Overview: The Jenkins Pre-doctoral Fellowship Project (JPFP) seeks to grow the number of graduate degrees underrepresented persons (women, minorities, and persons with disabilities) receive in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. JPFP provides up to three years of support and includes a mentor-protégé initiative, fellows’ orientation, a technical exchange symposium, and the competitive mini-research award program. The competitive mini research award program provides six weeks of hands-on research experience at either a NASA center or the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

- Eligibility: Recipients of this award must be within the first three years of a graduate program or in the process of applying to an accredited STEM graduate program. Applicants must be from an underrepresented group, including women, ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities.

- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens or nationals.

- Award/Program Size: Up to 20 fellows are selected annually. Annual stipends for students pursuing doctoral degrees start at $24,000 and for master’s level fellows at $18,000. Fellows also receive a tuition offset of $8,500 per year.
Due Dates: Applications were due February 1, 2012. Future due dates have not yet been announced.

Sources:
http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs/descriptions/Jenkins_Predoctoral_Fellowship_Project.html, accessed June 1, 2012;

Graduate Student Researchers Project

Overview: This program awards fellowships for graduate study leading to master’s or doctoral degrees. The awards cover research at the fellow’s home institution plus an additional research internship at one of the nine NASA centers or the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. NASA updates research topics annually to complement its mission requirements. Research areas are in disciplines that lead to aeronautics and space careers.

Eligibility: Students must be pursuing a degree related to NASA research and development, in the fields of science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM).

Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.

Award/Program Size: This 12-month award may be renewed annually, for a maximum of three years. The 2012 program only accepted renewal applications.

Due Dates: Applications were due February 1, 2012. Future due dates have not yet been announced.

Additional Information: This program includes a required internship at the NASA center affiliated with the NASA-sponsored research.


Internships

NASA offers a variety of internship opportunities for students in NASA-related fields. Below is list of internships for graduate students along with the link to the specific website for more information.

- Independent Validation and Verification Project (IV&V) http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs/descriptions/Independent_Verification_Project.html (accessed June 1, 2012)
• NASA Academy
  http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs(descriptions/NASA_Academy.html
  (accessed June 1, 2012)
• Robotics Academy
  http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs(descriptions/Robotics_Academy.html
  (accessed June 1, 2012)
• Student Internship Project
  http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs(descriptions/Student_Internship_Project.html
  (accessed June 1, 2012)
• Langley Aerospace Research Summer Scholars Project
  http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs(descriptions/Langley_Aerospace_Research_Summer_Scholars_Project.html
  (accessed June 1, 2012)
• University Affiliated Research Center Systems Teaching Institute Graduate Student Summer Internship Project
  http://www.nasa.gov/offices/education/programs(descriptions/University_Affiliated_Research_Center_STI.html
  (accessed June 1, 2012)
National Science Foundation

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds basic research in all areas of science and engineering. This includes research on social, behavioral, and economic sciences as well as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.

Institution Awards

Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship Program (IGERT)

- Overview: This program has been developed to meet the challenges of educating U.S. Ph.D. scientists, engineers, and educators with the interdisciplinary backgrounds; deep knowledge in chosen disciplines; and technical, professional, and personal skills to become leaders and creative agents for change. It is also intended to facilitate greater diversity in student participation and preparation, and to contribute to the development of a diverse, globally-engaged science and engineering workforce. The major portion of the funds must be used for doctoral student stipends and educational and training activities. IGERT is an NSF-wide program.
- Eligibility: Projects may involve more than one institution, but a single institution must accept overall management responsibility. The lead institution must independently grant Ph.D. degrees in at least one of the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields supported by NSF in order to be eligible.
- Citizenship: All stipend recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: IGERT awards to institutions can be up to $700,000 per year for five years. NSF plans to make approximately 18 new and renewal IGERT awards in fiscal years 2011 and 2012. The NSF contribution to graduate student stipends is currently $30,000 per year per IGERT trainee for a 12-month appointment. Additional funding is available as part of a competitive innovation incentive fund and for projects that include an international component.
- Due Date: Letters of Intent were due May 1, 2012, and Full Proposals are due July 2, 2012.
- Special Attention: There is a limit of one proposal that may be submitted by an institution either as a single institution or as a lead institution in a multi-institution preliminary proposal.
- Special Attention: NSF created a new Cyberinfrastructure Framework for 21st Century Science and Engineering (CIF21) track in IGERT. Institutions may submit one proposal to the CIF21 track in addition to the one proposal they are allowed to submit to the regular IGERT solicitation. Letters of Intent for the CIF21 track were due June 5, 2012 and full proposals are due August 6, 2012. Note that these dates are different than the due date for responses to the regular IGERT solicitation. More information, including the full solicitation and program contacts, is available at http://nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504772.

Graduate STEM Fellows in K-12 Education (GK-12)

This program, which was recently discontinued, provided funding for graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines to bring their leading research practice and findings into the K-12 learning settings. The GK-12 program provided an opportunity for graduate students to acquire value-added skills, such as communicating STEM subjects to technical and non-technical audiences, leadership, team building, and teaching while enriching STEM learning and instruction in the K-12 settings.


Federal Cyber Service: Scholarship for Service (SFS)

- **Overview:** This program seeks to increase the number of qualified students entering the fields of information assurance and computer security and to increase the capacity of the U.S. higher education enterprise to continue to produce professionals in these fields. The SFS program is composed of two tracks, The Scholarship Track and the Capacity Building Track. The Scholarship Track provides funding to colleges and universities to award scholarships to students in the information assurance and computer security fields. The Capacity Building Track provides funds to colleges and universities to improve the quality and increase the production of information assurance and computer security professionals.

- **Eligibility:** For the Scholarship Track, the proposing organization must be an accredited U.S. university or college that either has been designated by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security as a Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education (CAE/IAE or CAE-R) or has an information assurance program that meets criteria similar to those necessary for CAE/IAE designation. Scholarship recipients must be full-time students within two years of graduation and in a formal program that is focused on computer security or information assurance at an awardee institution, full-time students within three years of graduation with both the bachelor's and the master's degree, students participating in a combined bachelor's and master's degree (“five year”) program, or research based doctoral students within three years of graduation. Scholarship recipients must also meet the selection criteria for Federal employment.

- **Citizenship:** Scholarship recipients must be U.S. citizens.

- **Award/Program Size:** The SFS Scholarship Track supports a university- or college-based scholarship program that supports two to three years of tuition, room and board allowance, and a stipend for students in the general area of information assurance and cybersecurity. The scholarships provide academic year stipends of $25,000 per year for master’s degree students and $30,000 per year for doctoral students. In addition, SFS scholarships cover expenses normally incurred by full-time students in the institution, including tuition and education related fees (does not include items such as meal plans, housing, or parking); a health insurance reimbursement allowance up to $1,200 per year; a professional development allowance (travel, professional certification etc.) of $1,300 and a book allowance of $1,000 per academic year. There are an estimated number of ten to fifteen
Scholarship Track awards and ten to fifteen Capacity Building Track awards. Scholarship awards are usually funded as continuing grants over a four-year period.

- Due Date: The most recent due date for applications was April 17, 2012. The upcoming dates have not yet been announced.


**International Research Experience for Students (IRES)**

- Overview: This program supports groups of U.S. undergraduate or graduate students conducting research abroad in collaboration with foreign investigators.
- Eligibility: Proposals must be submitted by a U.S. institution, organization, or professional society.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards may be up to $250,000 over three years. NSF expects to make twelve awards in fiscal year (FY) 2013 for total FY 2013 funding of approximately $2.25 million.
- Due Dates: Proposals are due August 21 in 2012 and the third Tuesday in August, annually thereafter.


**Doctoral Dissertation Enhancement Projects (DDEP)**

This program, which used to be part of the International Research Experiences for Students (IRES) program, supported the dissertation research abroad of one doctoral student in collaboration with a foreign investigator. The Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE) is no longer managing a competition for DDEP awards. However, individual research directorates and divisions may still award these grants. Interested applicants should contact a program manager in their discipline to inquire about whether their division is funding DDEP awards.


**Science Master’s Program**

A competition in this program was run in 2009 as part of the economic stimulus funding NSF received. The program was designed to catalyze the creation of science master’s programs that prepare graduate students for careers in business, industry, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies by providing them not only with a strong foundation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines, but also with research and internship experiences. The bulk of the funds were required to be used for graduate student stipends and educational and training activities. NSF is unlikely to run another competition in this program unless it is forced to do so by Congress.
Individual Awards

Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRF)

- Overview: This program provides support for students in the early stages of their graduate or doctoral studies in science and engineering.
- Eligibility: Fellowships are awarded for graduate study leading to research-based master’s or doctoral degrees in all fields supported by NSF, including in science, social science, engineering, mathematics, as well as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education. Applicants are eligible to apply during their senior year of college, prior to entering graduate school, during their first year of graduate school, or during the fall term of their second year of graduate school. Applicants must be enrolled at a US-based institution for their graduate study.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: NSF expects to award 2,000 awards for new fellowships in fiscal year 2012. For each year of support, NSF provides a stipend of $30,000 to the Fellow and a cost-of-education allowance of $12,000 to the degree-granting institution. NSF has proposed increasing stipend support to $32,000 for FY 2013 in the FY 2013 budget request.
- Due Dates: Applications are typically due in November each year, with the exact date dependant on the field in which the student is applying. The application deadlines for 2012 have not yet been released.

Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants in the Directorate for Biological Science (DDIG)

- Overview: This program provides support for students in animal behavior and areas of biology supported by the NSF Division of Environmental Biology. These grants provide partial support for doctoral dissertation research to participate in scientific meetings, to conduct research in specialized facilities or field settings, and to expand an existing body of dissertation research.
- Eligibility: An organization may submit only one proposal per student in a given year and a student may receive only one DDIG award. Students must have advanced to candidacy for a Ph.D. degree before the submission deadline to receive a DDIG award. Proposals should be submitted by the dissertation advisor on behalf of the student.
- Citizenship: There is no citizenship requirement for this program.
- Award/Program Size: There are an estimated number of 100 to 120 awards under the current solicitation. The maximum budget per award is $15,000 total for up to two years.
- Due Date: Applications are due annually on the second Friday in November.
Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants (SBE DDRIG)

- Overview: This program awards grants to doctoral students to improve the quality of dissertation research. It provides supplemental funds to allow for significant data-gathering projects and to conduct field research.
- Eligibility: Proposals must be submitted by the dissertation advisor on behalf of the graduate student who is at the point of initiating or already conducting dissertation research. The student (co-PI) must attend a U.S. institution.
- Citizenship: There is no citizenship requirement for this program.
- Award/Program Size: NSF intends to award an estimated 200 to 300 awards annually. Funds are to be used exclusively for necessary expenses incurred in the actual conduct of the dissertation research. Award sizes will vary widely by field so interested applicants should contact individual programs within SBE to obtain specific information about award sizes in their area. Funds may not be used as a stipend for the student, for tuition, textbooks, journals, or for the typing, reproduction, or publication costs of the student's dissertation.
- Due Dates: The proposal deadlines are specific to research fields and vary from January to October. Please check the website for the appropriate due date.
- Special Attention: This program does not support research with disease-related goals, including research on the etiology, diagnosis, or treatment of physical or mental disease, abnormality, or malfunction of human beings, animals or plants.

East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes for U.S. Graduate Students (EAPSI)

- Overview: This fellowship program introduces graduate students in science and engineering to East Asia and Pacific science and engineering through first-hand research experiences and exposure to science policy, scientific infrastructure, society, culture, and language. Institutes are located in Australia, China, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Singapore and Taiwan and occur each summer between June and August.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled in a research-oriented master’s or Ph.D. program at a U.S. institution pursuing studies in fields of science and engineering supported by NSF.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: There are an estimated 200 awards annually. The program provides a $5,000 stipend, a roundtrip international airline ticket, and a pre-departure orientation in the Washington, D.C. area. Foreign co-sponsoring organizations will provide additional support to cover EAPSI students’ living expenses abroad during the period of the summer
institutes, and will provide an in-country orientation to the science environment and culture of each location.

- Due Date: Applications are due annually on the second Wednesday in November.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) primary mission is to regulate and implement public policy for the nation’s food, agriculture, and natural resources. However, there are offices within USDA which support extramural research opportunities. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is the primary extramural research and grant making agency of the USDA. Through the grants offered by NIFA, the USDA is able to conduct research critical to farmers, consumers, and communities. (In 2008, NIFA was created as a replacement for the organization formerly known as the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.)

Individual Awards

USDA Public Service Leaders Scholarship

- Overview: This program provides combined scholarship and internship opportunities to undergraduate and graduate students leading to permanent employment upon completion of their degree. The program is designed to promote public service and create access to higher education.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be in good academic standing, have a strong interest in a career in public service with the USDA, and be willing to relocate upon graduation.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens, in the final stages of the application process for U.S. citizenship, or on schedule to have attained citizenship within a year of being accepted to the program.
- Award/Program Size: Recipients of a Public Service Leaders Scholarship enter into an agreement with the USDA to receive full-tuition scholarships for the indicated number of years. In addition, recipients intern at the USDA for a minimum of 640 hours prior to graduation. The internships are paid in addition to the scholarship funds.
- Due Date: The most recent application deadline was April 6, 2012. The upcoming dates have not yet been announced.
- Special Attention: Upon graduation, scholarship recipients become permanent employees of the USDA and must be prepared to work for USDA for one year for each year of educational assistance received.


NIFA Fellowships Grant Program

- Overview: This grant program supports efforts to develop the next generation of leaders who will be actively engaged in agriculture, forestry, and food related research, education, and extension careers. Projects must aligned with one of the five Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Challenge Areas: Agricultural Science for Climate Variability and
Change; Childhood Obesity Prevention; Food Safety; Food Security; and Sustainable Bioenergy or one of the six AFRI Foundational areas: Plant health and production and plant products; Animal health and production and animal products; Food safety, nutrition, and health; Renewable energy, natural resources, and environment; Agriculture systems and technology; and Agriculture economics and rural communities.

- Eligibility: Applicants must be pursuing a doctorate degree and have successfully completed their preliminary, qualifying, or general exams (oral and/or written, as per institutional requirements) prior to the application deadline; or be seeking postdoctoral opportunities and have received their doctoral degree no earlier than January 1, 2009 and not later than July 19, 2012.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: $12.0 million is anticipated to be available for awards in 2012. Predoctoral Fellowship Grants are limited to a total of $37,500 per year for a period of up to two years. Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants are limited to a total award of $130,000 for two-year duration and are not renewable. Funds should be requested primarily for salary support, although other expenditures (e.g., fringe benefits, supplies, travel, workshops, and publication) are allowable costs.
- Due Date: The last application deadline was January 19, 2012. The next cycle for this fellowship has not been announced.


Institution Awards

NIFA National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship (NNF) Grants Program

- Overview: This grant program supports training students for master’s and doctoral degrees in food, agricultural and natural resource sciences and special International Study or Thesis/Dissertation Research Travel Allowances (IRTA) for eligible recipients. Awards are specifically intended to support traineeship programs that engage outstanding students to pursue and complete their degrees in USDA mission areas.
- Eligibility: Applications are solicited from institutions that confer a graduate degree in at least one of the following targeted expertise shortage areas: animal and plant production, forest resources, agricultural educators and communicators, agricultural management and economics, food science and human nutrition, sciences for agricultural biosecurity, and training in integrative biosciences for sustainable food and agricultural systems.
- Citizenship: Beneficiaries of the NNF award must be U.S. citizens or nationals.
- Award/Program Size: $3.6 million was available for awards in the FY 2011 funding cycle. NNF plans to award $41,000 for each master’s level training [$18,500 per year for two years as student stipend] and $79,500 for each doctoral level training [$24,500 per year for three years as student stipend]. For each level of student training, there is a $2,000 per student per year cost-of-education allowance for the institution. For the IRTA awards, there will be
$8,000 for doctoral level USDA Fellows and $4,500 for master’s level USDA Fellows. In FY 2011, at the master’s level, approximately $1.25 million was available for training and IRTA awards. Approximately $2.35 million was available for doctoral training, including IRTAs.

- **Due Date:** The most recent application deadline was June 1, 2011. The next cycle for the fellowship has not yet been announced.


**Internships**

**Summer Intern Program (SIP)**

- **Overview:** This program provides an opportunity for graduate students to gain experience as assistants in scientific, professional, and technical areas. The SIP consists of a number of internships that give students an opportunity to gain career experience and to strongly consider future employment with USDA. Internships are available within the USDA mission areas, agencies and staff offices.
- **Eligibility:** The USDA seeks high school, college, and graduate students whose field of study falls within one of their seven mission areas: farm and foreign agricultural services; food, nutrition and consumer services; food safety; marketing and regulatory programs; natural resources and environment; research, education and economics; and, rural development.
- **Citizenship:** Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- **Award/Program Size:** The program runs June–August with flexible beginning and ending dates that are determined by the student and supervisor. Internships will be paid and transportation and housing expenses may be covered by the USDA.
- **Due Date:** Each intern position vacancy has its own deadline. Also, the individual USDA Agencies may post additional summer positions on their own websites, so check throughout the spring for further updates.


**International Agricultural Internship Program**

- **Overview:** This program provides participants with an opportunity to learn about issues, programs, and activities related to international agricultural trade by working in one of the 90 Foreign Agricultural Service overseas offices, located in or close to U.S. Embassies or Consulates.
- **Eligibility:** Students must be enrolled in a graduate program in a business- or science-related agricultural field—for example, agricultural economics, economics, finance, business or marketing. Students majoring in an international studies/relations program, in law school or in a biotechnology program are also eligible.
- **Citizenship:** Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
• Award/Program Size: Approximately ten interns are placed per semester. Internships are paid and students are expected to work 40 hours a week.
• Due Dates: The most recent application deadline, for summer 2012, was January 20, 2012. The upcoming deadlines have not yet been announced.
• Special Attention: Applicants must have at least a 3.3 GPA and have the ability to pass a government background check.

U.S. Agency for International Development

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) provides assistance in the developing world. USAID sometimes partners with the U.S. higher education community on development problems which USAID is working on throughout the developing world in support of U.S. national interests.

Internships

Volunteer Student Interns

- Overview: The agency will be sponsoring unpaid internships throughout the academic year. USAID seek highly motivated undergraduate and graduate students studying a wide variety of fields, including engineering, computer science, mathematics, economics, foreign languages, area studies, business administration, accounting, international relations, finance, logistics, human resources, geography, public health, national security studies, military and foreign affairs, political science and public administration. Selected interns will be placed in various bureaus within the agency.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited college or university and in good academic standing, with a minimum grade point average of 3.0.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens.
- Due Date: Volunteer Student Intern vacancies are posted online when opportunities are available. Please review the vacancies along with additional qualifications and apply by e-mailing the contact person listed. Send a resume, cover letter and possible dates of involvement.

Department of Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) oversees federal highway, air, rail, maritime, and other transportation administration activities and functions. The Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA) oversees and coordinates DOT’s research and education programs. DOT distributes research funds to state and local transportation agencies as well as academic institutions.

Individual Awards

Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship (GRAD)

- Overview: This program is one of the various fellowship programs under the Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program. GRAD provides students enrolled in master’s and doctorate degree programs in transportation fields funding for tuition and research stipends.
- Eligibility: Applicants should be pursuing a master’s or doctorate degree full-time in a transportation-related field and conducting ongoing transportation research.
- Citizenship: Students who are non-US citizens may apply for grants but must provide a certified copy of their I-20 or I-551 ID issued by the U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Service (CIS).
- Award/Program Size: The funding amount for each awardee depends on the selection and ranking from the National Selection Panel. Awardees may receive up to $10,000 for tuition; master’s level students may receive up to $1,700 per month while doctoral level students may receive $2,000 per month in stipends.
- Due Date: Applications were due February 10, 2012 for the current round of funding. Future deadlines have not been posted.

Relevant Agencies Not Currently Offering Graduate Student Funding

**Department of Homeland Security**

The Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate is the primary research and development arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Directorate has three portfolios that address basic research through advanced technology development and transition - spanning six primary divisions that address critical homeland security needs: Borders and Maritime Security; Chemical and Biological; Command, Control, and Interoperability; Explosives; Human Factors and Behavioral Sciences; and Infrastructure and Geophysical.

While DHS has offered several graduate fellowships in the past, none will be available during the 2012 competition cycle due to budget constraints on the Department. Undergraduate internship programs continue to be offered. Information about DHS education programs and areas of interest is at [http://www.orau.gov/dhsinternships/](http://www.orau.gov/dhsinternships/).

**National Endowment for the Humanities**

Currently the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) does not support graduate education. There is an effort from the university community to advocate in support of NEH creating a new competitive grant program that would support faculty-graduate student collaborations similar to those found in the sciences. This program would allow students and researchers to explore areas of NEH interest such as foreign languages and cultural studies, religious histories, and the impact of globalization on teaching and scholarship, among others.

**National Endowment for the Arts**

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is the federal resource which supports traditional art forms such as music, dance, and theater projects. There are also opportunities for the funding of art promotion and enhancing access to the arts to unserved or underserved populations. NEA does not currently offer any programs for graduate students.