EDU | DIRECTORATE FOR STEM EDUCATION

Division of Graduate Education
(DGE)

**Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)
NSFGRFP.org**

National Science Foundation
Directorate for STEM Education (EDU)

Preparing a diverse STEM workforce and a well-informed citizenry

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www.nsf.gov/grfp

info@nsfgrfp.org

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ABOUT NSF GRFP

SINCE 1952

70,000+ GRFPS AWARDED

40+ FELLOWS HAVE BECOME NOBEL LAUREATES

FELLOWS FROM/IN EVERY STATE

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

$37,000 ANNUAL STIPEND

$16,000 COST OF EDUCATION ALLOWANCE

5-YEAR FELLOWSHIP PERIOD

3 YEARS FINANCIAL SUPPORT

~ Per Competition

12,000+ APPLICANTS
2,000+ OFFERS

NO POST-GRADUATE STUDY SERVICE REQUIREMENT

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTED

500+

~ Per Competition

Submit Early

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

nsfgrfp.org

DECISION TREE

FORMAT COMPLIANCE CHECK

ELIGIBLE MAJOR FIELDS OF STUDY

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

EACH MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY HAS SUBFIELDS

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Why Serve as a Reviewer?

- Support the early-careers of outstanding STEM and STEM education students
- Help identify our nation's future science and engineering leaders
- Be of service to the STEM community
- Obtain a professional development opportunity
- Gain firsthand knowledge of the NSF GRFP review process
- Receive valuable perspectives on the NSF Merit Review criteria
- Improve ability to mentor students in application development

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- Individuals in academe, government, industry, and non-profits with an advanced degree or equivalent work experience
- Faculty who conduct research and/or serve as research advisors
- <u>Cannot</u> be graduate students or post-docs
- <u>May not</u> be affiliated with a foreign institution

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- Able to evaluate early-career applications on their demonstrated potential for significant achievements in science, technology, mathematics, or engineering (STEM)
  - Willing to review applications in their field of expertise and related fields supported by NSF
- Able to impartially describe the merits of applications submitted by both undergraduate and graduate students

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What Does Reviewing Entail?

Activities:

- Participate in virtual orientation
- Formally register as NSF reviewer
- Access reviewer training materials
- Expect to receive 20 applications or more, if needed
- Participate in virtual panels
- Receive payment (if eligible) and service acknowledgement

Comprehensive and Holistic Review of Applications:

- Personal information, educational and work/research experience, academic honors
- Research statement (2 pages)
- Personal statement (3 pages)
- Transcripts
- Two to three letters of reference

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Incorporate Evidence

- Address review and summary comments to applicant.
- Apply merit review criteria information in application.
- Review comments should be supported by evidence in the application.
- Avoid implicit bias statements.
- Do not refer to specific components of application (e.g., GPA, reference letters) or identify letter writers.
- Do not summarize the application; provide strengths and weaknesses of the application
- Be consistent in evaluations of applications

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Be Reflective and Constructive

- Remember the primary purpose of the review is to provide comments to the applicant
- Ask yourself, if you received this type of review, would it be helpful to your continued professional growth and development as a researcher?
- Carefully read each evaluation after you have written it; ask yourself how others might respond to your comments if they were made public
- Be accountable to yourself and be ready to justify your evaluation to others
- All reviews are advisory to NSF and are federal record

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Intellectual Merit

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

Broader Impacts

- How well does the proposed activity benefit society or advance desired societal outcomes?

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Applicants are reviewed based on:

- Examining <u>demonstrated potential</u> for significant achievement in STEM
- Using a <u>comprehensive, holistic</u> approach
- Giving <u>balanced consideration to all components</u> of the application
  - Including the educational and research record, leadership, outreach, service activities, plans for the future, individual competencies, experiences, and other attributes

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Intellectual Merit: Potential to Advance Knowledge

Evidence of potential, such as ability to:

- Plan and conduct research
- Work as a member of a team as well as independently
- Interpret and communicate research (e.g. publications, presentations)
- Take initiative, solve problems, persist

Additional considerations:

- The potential of the applicant's approach to their major field of study and their Research Plan to advance knowledge
- Demonstrated intellectual ability (grades, curricula, award, etc.)

Evidence of intellectual merit can be found in all parts of the application.

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Broader Impacts: Impact of the Individual or Research on Society

Societal benefits may include but are not limited to:

- Increasing participation of the full spectrum of diverse talents in STEM
- Outreach: Mentoring; improving STEM education in schools
- Increasing public scientific literacy; increased public engagement with STEM
- Community outreach: science clubs, radio, TV, newspapers, blogs
- Increasing collaboration between academia, industry, others

Evidence of broader impacts can be found in all parts of the application.

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Thank you!

nsfgrfp.org/reviewers

Graduate Research Fellowship Program
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Program Contacts

info@nsfgrfp.org

GRFP Reviewers: nsfgrfp.org/reviewers/

www.nsf.gov/grfp & www.nsfgrfp.org

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202-331-3542 (international)