Mini-workshop: Applying for an NSF GRFP award

Jason Miller, Ph.D.
Senior Research Officer

18 September and 2 October, 2015
co-sponsored by: CI LSAMP and ACCESO programs
Agenda

- Introductions
- What is an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship?
- The Application
- Writing
- Submitting
Introductions

- Name?
- Where are you from?
- Academic interests (e.g., major(s), minors(s))?  
- Interest in graduate school?
What is an NSF GRF?

“The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited United States institutions.”

from http://www.nsfgrfp.org/general_resources/about
What is an NSF GRF?

“Fellows share in the prestige and opportunities that become available when they are selected. Fellows benefit from a three-year annual stipend of $34,000 along with a $12,000 cost of education allowance for tuition and fees (paid to the institution), opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct their own research at any accredited U.S. institution of graduate education they choose.”

from http://www.nsfgrfp.org/general_resources/about
What is an NSF GRF?

“Fellows share in the prestige and opportunities that become available when they are selected. Fellows benefit from a **three-year annual stipend of $34,000** along with a $12,000 cost of education allowance for tuition and fees (paid to the institution), opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct their own research at any accredited U.S. institution of graduate education they choose.”

from [http://www.nsfgrfp.org/general_resources/about](http://www.nsfgrfp.org/general_resources/about)
What is an NSF GRF?

“Fellows share in the prestige and opportunities that become available when they are selected. Fellows benefit from a **three-year annual stipend of $34,000** along with a **$12,000 cost of education allowance for tuition and fees** (paid to the institution), opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct their own research at any accredited U.S. institution of graduate education they choose.”

from [http://www.nsfgrfp.org/general_resources/about](http://www.nsfgrfp.org/general_resources/about)
What is an NSF GRF?

“The fellowship is competitive, and those planning to apply should devote a sincere effort to their application.”

from http://www.nsfgrfp.org/general_resources/about
Which STEM fields?

- Chemistry
- Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE)
- Engineering
- Geosciences
- Life Sciences
- Materials Research
- Mathematical Sciences
- Physics and Astronomy
- Psychology
- Social Sciences
- STEM Education and Learning Research

see http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15597/nsf15597.htm#appendix
2015 GRF Awards

• 2000 awards from among 16,500 applicants
• 1956 Honorable Mentions
• 1,053 are women, 494 are from underrepresented minority groups, 43 are persons with disabilities, and 31 are veterans
• from 456 baccalaureate institutions
• 37 from 12 Universities in the CSU (10 Honorable Mentions)
2015 GRF Awards

• 37 from 12 Universities in the CSU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California Polytechnic State University</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State Polytechnic University, Pomona</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Chico</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Dominguez Hills</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, East Bay</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Long Beach</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Long Beach</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Monterey Bay</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Northridge</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Sacramento</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, San Bernardino</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, San Marcos</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eligibility

To be eligible for the NSF GRFP, you must:

• be a US citizen, US national, or permanent resident

• intend to pursue a research-based Master's or Ph.D. program in an NSF-supported field

• be enrolled in an eligible program at an accredited United States graduate institution, with a US campus, by fall 2016

• have completed no more than twelve months of full-time graduate study (or the equivalent) as of August 1, 2015

• meet all other eligibility requirements as set forth in the current Program Solicitation
Questions?
Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

PROGRAM SOLICITATION
NSF 15-597

REPLACES DOCUMENT(S):
NSF 14-0590

National Science Foundation
Directorate for Biological Sciences
Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering
  Directorate for Education & Human Resources
    Division of Graduate Education
  Directorate for Engineering
  Directorate for Geosciences
  Directorate for Mathematical & Physical Sciences
  Directorate for Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences
  Office of Integrative Activities
  Office of International Science and Engineering

Application Deadline(s) (received by 8 p.m. Eastern Standard Time):
October 26, 2015
  Geosciences; Life Sciences
October 27, 2015
  Computer and Information Science and Engineering; Engineering; Materials Research

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REVISION NOTES
1. Application and reference writer deadlines have changed.
2. The number of statements required from all applicants is limited to two.

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

- Purpose
- Benefits
- Eligibility
- Application Instructions
- Review Criteria
- Deadlines

Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

PROGRAM SOLICITATION
NSF 15-597

REPLACES DOCUMENT(S):
NSF 14-0590

National Science Foundation
Directorate for Biological Sciences
Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering
Directorate for Education & Human Resources
Division of Graduate Education
Directorate for Engineering
Directorate for Geosciences
Directorate for Mathematical & Physical Sciences
Directorate for Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences
Office of Integrative Activities
Office of International Science and Engineering

Application Deadline(s) (received by 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time):
October 26, 2015
Geosciences; Life Sciences
October 27, 2015
Computer and Information Science and Engineering; Engineering; Materials Research
October 29, 2015
Psychology; Social Sciences; STEM Education and Learning
October 30, 2015
Chemistry; Mathematical Sciences; Physics and Astronomy

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REVISION NOTES
1. Application and reference writer deadlines have changed.
2. The number of statements required from all applicants is limited to two.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

General Information

Program Title:
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

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

Cognizant Program Officer(s):
Please note that the following information is current at the time of publishing. See program website for any updates to the points of contact.
The Application

Applicants must submit the following information

• Personal Information;
• Education,
• Work and Other Experience;
• electronic Transcripts;
• Proposed Field(s) of Study;
• Proposed Graduate Study and Graduate School Information;
• the names and email addresses of three reference letter writers;
• Personal, Relevant Background and Future Goals Statement; and
• Graduate Research Plan Statement.
The Application

Applicants must submit the following information

• Personal Information;
• Education,
• Work and Other Experience;
• electronic Transcripts;
• Proposed Field(s) of Study;
• Proposed Graduate Study and Graduate School Information;
• the names and email addresses of three reference letter writers;
• Personal, Relevant Background and Future Goals Statement; and
• Graduate Research Plan Statement.
Merit Review

The **Intellectual Merit** criterion encompasses the potential to advance knowledge; and The **Broader Impacts** criterion encompasses the potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes.

The following elements should be considered in the review for both criteria:

1. What is the potential for the proposed activity to: (a.) Advance knowledge and understanding within its own field or across different fields; and (b.) Benefit society or advance desired societal outcomes?
2. To what extent do the proposed activities suggest and explore creative, original, or potentially transformative concepts?
3. Is the plan for carrying out the proposed activities well-reasoned, well-organized, and based on a sound rationale? Does the plan incorporate a mechanism to assess success?
4. How well qualified is the individual, team, or organization to conduct the proposed activities?
5. Are there adequate resources available to the PI (either at the home organization or through collaborations) to carry out the proposed activities?
Questions?
Next Actions

• Identify & Approach References
• Make GRFP account on Fastlane
• Enter basic information
• Write statements
NSF Fastlane

https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/Login.do