



# THE OFFICE OF FELLOWSHIPS

## GRADUATE GUIDE

2006



NORTHWESTERN  
UNIVERSITY

[WWW.NORTHWESTERN.EDU/FELLOWSHIPS](http://WWW.NORTHWESTERN.EDU/FELLOWSHIPS)

December 2006

In what ways might we best or most effectively chart the success of our graduate students at Northwestern University? Time-to-degree is an important factor, certainly, but just because a student finishes a PhD in five years and not seven does not tell us very much about the creativity or intelligence of that student. Even placement of our graduates doesn't adequately provide us with a clear picture of success.

One obvious metric by which we might gauge the success of our graduate students is whether they receive external awards to support their research. Not only is it intrinsically valuable to apply for extramural funding as a graduate student (the process of application will be mirrored in numerous fields post-graduation), but such awards also allow our motivated, innovative students to pursue ground-breaking research beyond the typical confines of the university. Without question, winning external awards brings prestige to the student and to the institution, but it is the research supported and promoted by these external funds that is of real, lasting value.

For these reasons, we at The Graduate School are extremely pleased to introduce the Graduate Fellowship Handbook developed by the Office of Fellowships. The information provided by this handbook goes a long way toward helping our students identify what fellowships and grants might be relevant for their work as well as toward setting a schedule for applying to these external funding sources. We encourage you to review the information included in this handbook closely and, as always, ask many follow-up questions to determine if you are on the path to success.

Sincerely,

Andrew B. Wachtel  
Dean  
The Graduate School

## September

### FULBRIGHT IIE

**DETAILS:** All students in residence must apply through the NU Fulbright Committee

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens who hold a bachelor's degree at the beginning of the grant period; language requirements differ by project and by country

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Support for a year's study or research in any of more than 140 countries

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.fulbrightonline.org/us>

**DEADLINE:** internal early September/external mid-October

## October

### JACOB K. JAVITS FELLOWSHIP

**DETAILS:** Graduate students in their first year of graduate study. Fellowships are available for study in the arts, humanities, and social sciences.

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens or nationals, permanent residents of the US, or citizens of any one of the Freely Associated States

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$30,000 per year (maximum award)

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.ed.gov/programs/jacobjavits/index.html>

**DEADLINE:** early October

### MARSHALL SHERFIELD

**DETAILS:** Forty regular fellowships and two post-doctoral fellowships for study at a British university. Fellowships have a two year tenure

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens who hold a bachelor's degree with a GPA over 3.7

**AWARD AMOUNT:** University fees, cost of living expenses, fares to and from the US

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.marshallscholarship.org/sherfield.html>

**DEADLINE:** early October

### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY SCIENCE TO ACHIEVE RESULTS GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

**DETAILS:** 100 new fellowships: Master's level students may receive support for a maximum of two years. Doctoral students may be supported for a maximum of three years, usable over a period of four years.

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens or permanent residents.

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$37,000 per year

**WEBSITE:** [http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2006/2006\\_star\\_fellow.html](http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2006/2006_star_fellow.html)

**DEADLINE:** mid-October

### FANNIE & JOHN HERTZ FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP

**DETAILS:** For PhD work in the applied physical sciences. Hertz interviews a high percentage of applicants the first time around, then chooses a small subset of candidates for a second round of interviews.

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens in applied physical sciences

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Tuition plus \$28,000 stipend for five years graduate study

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.hertzfdn.org>

**DEADLINE:** late October

### IBM PHD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

**DETAILS:** Long-standing commitment to workforce diversity

**ELIGIBILITY:** US & non-US citizens eligible. Must be nominated by a faculty member

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Tuition, fees, and a stipend of \$17,500 for one academic year

**WEBSITE:** <http://www-304.ibm.com/jct09002c/university/scholars/fellowship/phd/>

**DEADLINE:** late October

## November

### SSRC INTERNATIONAL DISSERTATION FIELD RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

**DETAILS:** Support for social scientists and humanists conducting dissertation field research in all areas and regions of the world

**ELIGIBILITY:** Full-time graduate students in the humanities and social sciences - regardless of citizenship - enrolled in doctoral programs in the United States

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Individual awards of approximately \$20,000

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.ssrc.org/programs/idrf/>

**DEADLINE:** early November

#### **DAAD STUDY SCHOLARSHIP**

**DETAILS:** For study in Germany

**ELIGIBILITY:** US and Canadian citizens

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Monthly stipends of €715-795

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.daad.org/?p=gradstudy>

**DEADLINE:** Internal deadline - early November; external deadline – mid-November

#### **NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

**DETAILS:** Approximately 1,000 fellowships. Three years of support for graduate study.

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens, nationals, or permanent resident aliens of the United States. Fellowships intended for individuals in the early stages of graduate study.

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$30,000 for a 12-month tenure period

**WEBSITE:** [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=6201&org=NSF](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=6201&org=NSF)

**DEADLINE:** early-mid November

#### **AMERICAN-SCANDINAVIAN FOUNDATION GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS**

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens with bachelor's degrees

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$20,000 for one year's study in a Scandinavian country

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.amscan.org/fellowship.html>

**DEADLINE:** early November

#### **GETTY PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP GRANTS**

**ELIGIBILITY:** Scholars of all nationalities in the arts, humanities, or social sciences. Pre-doctoral applicants must have advanced to candidacy by the time of award and expect to complete their dissertations during the fellowship period.

Pre-doctoral fellows who receive their doctorate while in residence automatically become post-doctoral fellows.

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Pre-doctoral fellows receive a total stipend of \$18,000

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.getty.edu/grants/research/scholars/>

**DEADLINE:** early November

#### **AMERICAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN TURKEY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS**

**DETAILS:** Dissertation research on ancient, medieval, or modern times in Turkey for periods between four months and one year

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens or permanent residents and Canadian citizens. Dissertation applicants must have fulfilled all the requirements for PhD except for the dissertation at the time of application

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$13,335-\$40,000

**WEBSITE:** <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/ARIT/FellowshipPrograms.htm>

**DEADLINE:** early November

#### **WENNER-GREN DISSERTATION FIELDWORK GRANTS**

**DETAILS:** Dissertation field research in anthropology and closely-related fields.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants must be enrolled for a doctoral degree. Any nationality or country of residence may apply.

**AWARD AMOUNT:** Up to \$25,000

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.wennergren.org/programs/>

**DEADLINE:** early November & early May

#### **GEM FELLOWSHIPS FOR MINORITIES IN ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE**

**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens in engineering, physical science, or natural science majors and from one of the following underrepresented minority groups: Native American, African American, Latino, Puerto Rican, or other Hispanic American.

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$10,000-14,000 for up to 5 years

WEBSITE: [http://was.nd.edu/gem/gemwebapp/public/gem\\_04\\_100.htm](http://was.nd.edu/gem/gemwebapp/public/gem_04_100.htm)

DEADLINE: early November

**PAUL AND DAISY SOROS FELLOWSHIPS FOR NEW AMERICANS**

DETAILS: Thirty fellowships awarded each year for up to two years of study at a US institution towards a graduate degree in any professional field or scholarly discipline

ELIGIBILITY: A New American is an individual who (1) is a resident alien; i.e., holds a Green Card or, (2) has been naturalized as a US citizen or (3) is the child of two parents who are both naturalized citizens. To be eligible you must not be over thirty year old

AWARD AMOUNT: \$20,000/year and up to one-half of tuition costs

WEBSITE: <http://www.pdsoros.org>

DEADLINE: early November

**SPENCER DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS FOR EDUCATION**

DETAILS: For research relevant to the improvement of education

ELIGIBILITY: US & non-US citizens eligible. Applicants must be doctoral candidates

AWARD AMOUNT: \$20,000 Fellowship

WEBSITE: <http://www.spencer.org>

DEADLINE: early November

**CHARLOTTE W. NEWCOMBE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS**

DETAILS: Research on ethical or religious values in the humanities and social sciences.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must be candidates for PhD or ThD degrees in doctoral programs at graduate schools in the United States

AWARD AMOUNT: \$18,500 for twelve months of full-time dissertation writing

WEBSITE: <http://www.woodrow.org/newcombe/>

DEADLINE: early November

**FULBRIGHT-HAYS DOCTORAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH ABROAD**

DETAILS: For periods of six to twelve months.

ELIGIBILITY: Citizens, nationals and permanent residents of the United States

Proposals focusing on Western Europe are not eligible.

AWARD AMOUNT: \$15,000 - \$60,000

WEBSITE: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/iegpsddrap/index.html>

DEADLINE: mid-November

**DAAD STUDY SCHOLARSHIP FOR ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS**

DETAILS: Students of fine art, design, film, music, choreography, and architecture to study, without earning a formal degree, at a German university or institution

ELIGIBILITY: US or Canadian citizens. Foreign nationals must be affiliated with an accredited US or Canadian university and express intent to return to their US/Canadian institution following the research visit to Germany

AWARD AMOUNT: Monthly stipends range from approximately €715 to €975, plus health insurance and travel costs

WEBSITE: [www.daad.org](http://www.daad.org)

DEADLINE: mid-November

**IREX ADVANCED RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM**

DETAILS: Overseas research on contemporary political, economic, historical, or cultural developments relevant to US foreign policy

ELIGIBILITY: Must be enrolled in a PhD program during the grant period. Non-US nationals are eligible. Check website for eligible countries of research focus

AWARD AMOUNT: Contingent on country

WEBSITE: <http://www.irex.org/programs/iaro/index.asp>

DEADLINE: mid-November

**CENTER FOR THE ADVANCED STUDY IN THE VISUAL ARTS PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

DETAILS: Application made through nomination by the chair of the graduate department.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Certification in two languages other than English is required. Candidates must be either US citizens or enrolled in a US university  
**AWARD AMOUNT:** see website  
**WEBSITE:** <http://www.nga.gov/resources/casvapre.shtm>  
**DEADLINE:** mid-November

**LUCE FOUNDATION DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS IN AMERICAN ART**

**ELIGIBILITY:** PhD candidacy in art history and US citizenship  
**AWARD AMOUNT:** A stipend of \$22,500  
**WEBSITE:** <http://www.acls.org/luceguid.htm>  
**DEADLINE:** mid-November

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN FELLOWSHIP**

**DETAILS:** Supports women doctoral candidates completing dissertations.  
**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizenship  
**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$18,000 - \$20,000  
**WEBSITE:** [http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships\\_grants/american.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships_grants/american.cfm)  
**DEADLINE:** mid-November

**FORD FOUNDATION DIVERSITY FELLOWSHIPS**

**DETAILS:** Seeks to increase the racial and ethnic diversity of the nation's college and university faculties by awarding approximately 60 pre-doctoral fellowships and 35 dissertation year fellowships. Pre-doctoral fellowships provide three years of support for individuals engaged in graduate study leading to a PhD or ScD  
**ELIGIBILITY:** Must be enrolled in a PhD or ScD program. Humanities, Social Sciences, and Hard Sciences eligible. Applicants must be citizens or nationals of the United States  
**AWARD AMOUNT:** *Pre-doctoral:* Three years of support with \$20,000 per year stipend *Dissertation:* One year of support with \$21,000 stipend  
**WEBSITE:** <http://www7.nationalacademies.org/fordfellowships/>  
**DEADLINE:** mid-November

**NIH PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP AWARDS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

**DETAILS:** Up to five years of support for research training leading to the PhD or the combined MD/PhD degree in the biomedical or behavioral sciences  
**ELIGIBILITY:** US citizens, non-citizen US nationals, or permanent residents  
**AWARD AMOUNT:** Approximately \$15,060  
**WEBSITE:** <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-00-068.html>  
**DEADLINE:** mid-November & early May

**SAMUEL H. KRESS PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS IN ART HISTORY**

**DETAILS:** For travel required for the completion of dissertation research on European art before 1900. The foundation offers four \$22,500-per-year Kress Institutional Fellowships in the History of European Art for a two-year research appointment in association with select foreign institutes  
**ELIGIBILITY:** Restricted to pre-doctoral candidates in the history of art. Nominees must be US citizens or individuals matriculated at an American university  
**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$3,500 - \$22,500  
**WEBSITE:** <http://www.shkf.org/predocfell.html>  
**DEADLINE:** late November

December

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN FELLOWSHIP**  
**(International Students)**

**DETAILS:** Full-time study or research grants for women who are not US citizens or permanent residents and intend to return to their home after completing their studies.  
**ELIGIBILITY:** International graduates or postgraduates at accredited institutions  
**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$18,000 - \$20,000  
**WEBSITE:** [http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships\\_grants/international.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships_grants/international.cfm)

DEADLINE: early December

**GAIUS CHARLES BOLIN DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP**

DETAILS: Two grants for one year residencies at Williams College

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens from underrepresented groups, working toward the PhD

AWARD AMOUNT: \$31,000 stipend; \$4,000 for research expenses

WEBSITE: <http://www.williams.edu/admin/deanfac/bolin.php>

DEADLINE: early December

**KATE NEAL KINLEY MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP**

DETAILS: For advanced study in the fine arts

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens, nationals, or permanent resident aliens

AWARD AMOUNT: Funds for one academic year in an approved program

WEBSITE: [http://www.faa.uiuc.edu/about\\_faa/pdf/KNK.pdf](http://www.faa.uiuc.edu/about_faa/pdf/KNK.pdf)

DEADLINE: early December

**LINK FOUNDATION ENERGY PROGRAM**

DETAILS: Two year fellowships for students working toward a PhD

ELIGIBILITY: Tenable at US and Canadian Universities

AWARD AMOUNT: \$50,000 in two installments

WEBSITE: <http://www.linkenergy.org/guidelines.html>

DEADLINE: early December

**CHATEAUBRIAND FELLOWSHIP**

DETAILS: 20 fellowships for doctoral students from US universities to conduct nine months of research in France

ELIGIBILITY: Must be PhD candidate in an US university. Non-US citizens are eligible

AWARD AMOUNT: 1300 Euro per month stipend. Round trip airfare and health insurance

WEBSITE: [http://www.france-science.org/chateaubriand-culturel\\_2005/fellow-intro.html](http://www.france-science.org/chateaubriand-culturel_2005/fellow-intro.html)

DEADLINE: late December

January

**NATIONAL DEFENSE SCIENCE & ENGINEERING GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP**

DETAILS: Army, Navy and Air Force fellowship programs to offer 100-150 awards

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens and nationals. First-year graduate students

AWARD AMOUNT: Tuition and \$30,000 stipend for three years' graduate study

WEBSITE: <http://www.asee.org/ndseg>

DEADLINE: early January

**AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP**

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens and permanent residents

AWARD AMOUNT: \$21,000/yr, plus an additional \$1,000 for health insurance

WEBSITE: <http://www.americanheart.org/presenter.jhtml?identifier=9215#predoc>

DEADLINE: early January

**DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE GRADUATE PROGRAM**

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens or permanent residents. First or second year graduate students in physical, engineering, computer, mathematical, or life sciences

AWARD AMOUNT: Full tuition, plus a yearly stipend of \$31,200

WEBSITE: <http://www.krellinst.org/csgf/index.shtml>

DEADLINE: mid-January

**SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

DETAILS: Pursue research projects in association with members of the Smithsonian

ELIGIBILITY: Graduate student fellowships and pre-doctoral fellowships

AWARD AMOUNT: \$4,500, and \$22,000 per year

WEBSITE: <http://www.si.edu/ofg/fell.htm>

DEADLINE: mid-January

**DOLORES ZOHRAB LIEBMANN FELLOWSHIP**

DETAILS: Graduate fellowships in any field-focus on Armenian studies and culture.

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens

AWARD AMOUNT: Fellowships include an \$18,000 stipend, plus tuition

WEBSITE: <http://fdncenter.org/grantmaker/liebmann/>

DEADLINE: internal mid-January/ external late January

**NSEP - DAVID L. BOREN GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS**

DETAILS: For international travel and language study. Award recipients incur a service requirement and are expected to accept a relevant position in a government agency following their award term, for a period of time equal to the award period

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens in fields relevant to national security, broadly defined

AWARD AMOUNT: Funding for up to one to two years of graduate study

WEBSITE: <http://www.iie.org/nsep>

DEADLINE: late January

**BELGIAN AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP**

DETAILS: Up to eight awards for study at a Belgian university or institution of higher ed.

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens with an MA (or equiv) or working towards a PhD (or equiv)

AWARD AMOUNT: \$18,000 per year

WEBSITE: [http://www.baef.be/content/fellow\\_us\\_to\\_bel.html](http://www.baef.be/content/fellow_us_to_bel.html)

DEADLINE: late January

**JOSEPHINE DE KÁRMÁN FELLOWSHIP**

DETAILS: Study carried out in and all funds expended within US

ELIGIBILITY: PhD candidate in any discipline who will defend his/her dissertation by the following academic year.

Open to foreign students already enrolled in a US university

AWARD AMOUNT: \$16,000 fellowship

WEBSITE: <http://www.dekarman.org/>

DEADLINE: late January

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FELLOWSHIPS**

DETAILS: Basic science and technology innovations applicable to the DHS mission

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens

AWARD AMOUNT: Full tuition, \$2,300 monthly stipend

WEBSITE: <http://www.orau.gov/dhsed>

DEADLINE: late January

**AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

DETAILS: Sociologists of color in mental health and drug abuse research

ELIGIBILITY: Must be members of one of the following racial/ethnic groups: Blacks/African Americans, Latinos/as, American Indians or Alaskan Natives, and Asians, or Pacific Islanders. Must be US citizens, nationals, or permanent residents

AWARD AMOUNT: \$20,772 for NIH Research Training/ \$15,000 for ASA-MFP Training

WEBSITE: <http://www.asanet.org/page.ww?section=Funding&name=Minority+Fellowship+Program>

DEADLINE: late January

## February

**NASA GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHERS PROGRAM**

DETAILS: Approximately 300 graduate students annually

ELIGIBILITY: US citizens

AWARD AMOUNT: \$24,000/year. Renewable up to three years

WEBSITE: <http://fellowships.hq.nasa.gov/gsrp/program/>

DEADLINE: early February

**DIVERSIFYING HIGHER EDUCATION FACULTY IN ILLINOIS PROGRAM**

DETAILS: Seeks to increase the number of underrepresented faculty and staff in Illinois

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants must be Illinois residents and US citizens or permanent residents and African-American, Latino, Asian-American, or Native American

AWARD AMOUNT: Up to \$16,000 annually. Doctoral students eligible for up to four years of support. Master's or professional degree candidates for up to two years

WEBSITE: <http://www.dfi.siu.edu/>

DEADLINE: mid-February

**DWIGHT DAVID EISENHOWER TRANSPORTATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

DETAILS: Approximately 100-150 awarded each year

ELIGIBILITY: Must be in a transportation-related discipline. Non-US citizens must attach a copy of their I-20 or I-551 ID issued by the INS

AWARD AMOUNT: Up to \$10,000 in tuition and up to \$2000 per month in stipend

WEBSITE: <http://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov/UGP/fellowships.aspx>

DEADLINE: mid-February

**THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RACE, POLITICS AND CULTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM**

ELIGIBILITY: Must have MFA or MA, and be US citizen or permanent resident

AWARD AMOUNT: \$40,000 salary, \$2,500 for research, \$5,000 for programming

WEBSITE: [http://csrpc.uchicago.edu/resources\\_funding\\_artist.shtml](http://csrpc.uchicago.edu/resources_funding_artist.shtml)

DEADLINE: mid-February

## March

**NASA EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE**

DETAILS: Initially for one year. May be renewed for no more than two more years

ELIGIBILITY: Students admitted to, or enrolled in, a full-time master's or doctorate program in Earth system science or related disciplines at accredited US universities

AWARD AMOUNT: \$24,000 per year

WEBSITE: [http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/postsecondary/features/F\\_GSF\\_ESS\\_2004.html](http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/postsecondary/features/F_GSF_ESS_2004.html)

DEADLINE: mid-March

## MISC.

**ROTARY FOUNDATION AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

DETAILS: Funds foreign travel & cultural ambassadorship.

ELIGIBILITY: Citizens of any country with a Rotary club, excluding lineal descendants of living Rotarians

AWARD AMOUNT: Funding for three months to two years of study abroad at a university in any country with a Rotary club

WEBSITE: [http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb\\_scho](http://www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho)

DEADLINE: Contact your local Rotary Club

**NSF DOCTORAL DISSERTATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT**

ELIGIBILITY: US Citizens

AWARD AMOUNT: Varies by division

WEBSITE: <http://www.nsf.gov>

DEADLINE: See division websites for details

**UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

DETAILS: Eleven Junior Research Fellows will be selected in Arts and Science, according to an agreed allocation of subjects between the colleges

ELIGIBILITY: Scholars finishing doctoral programs or pursuing postdoctoral study

AWARD AMOUNT: £17,673

**WEBSITE:** <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/gso/jrf.shtml>  
**DEADLINE:** varies by college. See website

## **Four Forms of Fellowships**

### **Predocctoral (Precandidacy)**

Apply during your senior year of college or at the beginning of your graduate career. Such fellowships fund 3-4 years of graduate study. They are intended to support you as you complete coursework and other requirements leading up to your qualifying examination/papers and dissertation proposal.

### **Dissertation (ABD=All But Dissertation)**

#### **Research**

These are intended to fund your dissertation research. Although you may not have taken your qualifying exams at the time you apply, you must have achieved candidacy before the fellowship term begins.

#### **Writing**

Some fellowships specify that they are intended for your final year of dissertation writing and may give a date by which you must complete the degree. Many prohibit your application if you have already had a writing year fellowship.

### **Postdoctoral**

Fellowships require a degree in hand or a forthcoming date for your defense at time of application.

## Two Types of Tract

### Intellectual Autobiography

This essay lies at the core of predoctoral fellowship applications and supplements the research proposal in dissertation fellowships. You are giving your reader insight into how you came to the decision to devote five years of your life to the study of a given topic. You are not relating what you've accomplished in the past but rather what you have learned from your past experiences. To write a strong essay, you should begin by answering the following question/s for yourself:

**I knew I wanted to study...**

**When...**

**Because...**

### Research Proposal

This essay differs from your dissertation proposal in fundamental ways. It makes an argument for why you should be funded to readers who are unfamiliar with your subfield. First, argue for the importance of what you study. Then demonstrate you have a sound methodology and adequate time frame for answering the questions you have posed. Begin by answering the following question/s for yourself.<sup>1</sup>

**I am studying...**

**Because I want to find out...**

**In order to understand...**

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<sup>1</sup> Questions from *The Craft of Research*, U. Chicago Press, 1995.

## The Dark Side of the Moon

NSF Panelists have **10 minutes** to evaluate each proposal. While GPA and GRE scores are important, the three written statements are absolutely essential to securing funding.

**Personal Statement:** Persuade panelists from outside your subfield of your merit. **You must grab your reader's attention** and persuasively argue for the way in which you already have used your scientific knowledge to benefit the broader community and propose the ways in which you intend to serve others during your fellowship career.

**Research Experience:** Be specific and persuasive about what you learned and the ways this will shape your future work, as your breadth and quality of experience significantly impacts readers. Be sure to **discuss publications and presentations** that grew out of your previous research. When you choose faculty to write your letters of reference, you are advised to select those who have advised you in longer research projects. You also should remind your references to evaluate you using a national rubric.

**Research Proposal:** Make sure you establish a **clearly stated research objective in the first sentence**. Use the rest of the essay to give the details of your methodology and the background of the project, emphasizing its impact on your field. Remember to describe your project in terms that are accessible to panelists from other subfields.

After the first day's evaluation, **60-70%** of the applications are rejected.

On the second day, the applications at the top of the first ranking are read by an additional panelist. **During this second reading, only the essays receive consideration!** The applications are re-ranked and panelists group proposals into three categories:

**Fund - Fund if extra money becomes available - Reject**

You have 10 minutes to win a fellowship.

Make every  
second/sentence count!!!

Start Early

Read Past Essays

Solicit Readers

Re-write

&

Re-write

&

Re-write