

OFFICE OF SPONSORED PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION  
[www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/](http://www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/)

# Research Fellowships: Why, What, and How?

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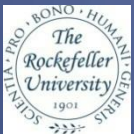
[http://www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/?page=Training\\_Area](http://www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/?page=Training_Area)

RRB 110

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# Why Apply for Funding

- Prepare for a career as an independent investigator
- Be an active member of the larger research community and participate in the discovery process
- Secure resources for training & research expenses
- Write up your findings (for future publications)



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# Pre-Doctoral Sponsored Funding

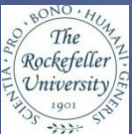
- Fellowships
- Training Grants
- Dissertation Grants



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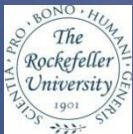
# Where to Apply

- Federal
  - [NIH](#)
  - [NSF](#)
  - [Department of Defense](#)
  - Other federal sponsors as relevant funding programs are made available
- Foundations
- Internal (via Deans Office and Development)



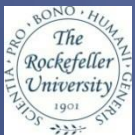
# Resources for Finding Funding Opportunities

- SR-PD
  - [Predoctoral Fellowship Funding Sources](#)
  - [Funding Opportunities Database](#)
  - SR-PD weekly Funding alerts
  - [Pivot database](#)
  - Other [Grant Seeking Resources](#) maintained by Program Development
  - Mentor and peers



# Opportunities for non-US Citizens

- While some sponsors have citizenship requirements, many opportunities exist for international students
  - Opportunities Restricted to US Citizens/Permanent Residents
  - Opportunities Restricted to Other Citizenship/Nationalities
  - Unrestricted Opportunities
- Review [Predocctoral Fellowship Funding Sources](#)



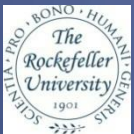
# NSF GRFP Application

- Submitted directly by applicant via NSF FastLane
- Review GRFP announcement [NSF 16-588](#)
- Application Components:
  - Personal, Relevant Background and Future Goals Statement (3 pages)
  - Graduate Research Plan Statement (2 pages)
  - Transcripts, uploaded into FastLane
  - Three letters of reference required



# NSF's Merit Review Criteria

- Intellectual Merit
  - Demonstrated potential to advance knowledge
    - Strength of Academic Record
    - Research Plan
    - Previous Experience and/or publications
    - Institution
- Broader Impacts
  - Potential of applicant to benefit society
    - Educational Experiences
    - Integration of research & education
    - Potential to reach diverse audiences and benefit society





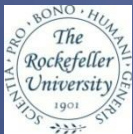
# Broader Impacts Criterion

- From [FAQs](#) for applicants to GRFP:

Reviewers may consider the following with respect to the Broader Impacts Criterion: the potential of the applicant to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes based on a holistic review of the complete application, including personal experiences, professional experiences, educational experiences and future plans. Broader impacts can be achieved through your research, research-related, and non-research activities and achievements, including any that broaden participation in STEM and STEM education.

# Changes to NSF GRFP

- Application Deadlines
  - Life Sciences applications are due 10/23/17
- Reference letter deadline
  - November 2, 2017
- Grad students are limited to only 1 submission, either in the first or second year of grad school.
  - Must have completed no more than 12 months full time grad school by August 1



# NDSEG Fellowship

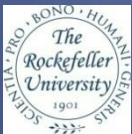
- [National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship](#)
- Eligibility
  - US citizenship requirement
  - Field of study must fit into one of the supported disciplines – Biosciences
  - At or near the beginning of doctoral studies (less than 2 years graduate study)
- Fellowship is for up to 4 years and covers tuition, fees, and stipend
- Applications due 12/31/17



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# NDSEG Fellowship - Application

- Personal Statement (1 Page)
  - Short and long-term goals
  - How did goals develop and what foundation has already begun
  - How does fellowship fit into these goals
- Proposed Research Relevant to DoD (3 pages)
  - A proposal relevant to the DoD agency
  - Show why the project will make an important contribution to the Agency and why the project/proposed training is meritorious
- Official undergrad transcripts and GRE score
- 3 Letters of Reference



# NIH Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA)

- [F31 Predoctoral](#)  
supports promising doctoral candidates who will be performing dissertation research and training in scientific health-related fields
- [F32 Postdoctoral](#)  
supports promising applicants with potential to become productive and successful independent research investigators in scientific health-related fields
- [T32 Institutional Training Grant](#)  
supports institutions with established programs of supervised research career development in the fields of biomedical and behavioral research



# American Heart Association

- No citizenship requirements (must have approved Visa)
- Objective: to initiate careers in cardiovascular and stroke research
- [Next deadline](#): 11/1/17
- You should be done with coursework and devoting 100% effort to research at time of award activation (Jan 1)
- \$23,844 stipend plus \$1,000 for health insurance and \$2,000 for project costs (supplies, travel, etc.) for two yrs
- Review Criteria: Trainee potential; Sponsor/Training Plan and Environment; Evaluation of Research Proposal



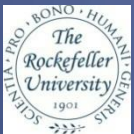
# Tips for All Fellowships

- Follow guidelines to the letter!
  - Some sponsors are especially interested in more novel/innovative projects
  - Many are focused on applicant's potential and track record (transcript, publications, etc.)
  - Many also ask for mentor's track record and institutional environment
  - Always keep the review criteria in mind!



# Additional Elements

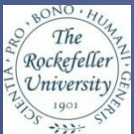
- Provide easy to read, carefully proofed, logical, succinct and coherent narrative.
- Meet format requirements:
  - Font type and size
  - Margins
  - Other as needed
- Never exceed the sponsor's page limit





# Steps To Beginning Your Proposal

- Start early!
- Review the funding program you deem relevant
- When available, review recently [funded proposals](#)
- Find out [success rate](#) at target agency/institute
- Discuss your research/proposal with your mentor
- Contact the Program Official/Director
- Secure reference letters
- Register with sponsor
- Work with your [Sponsored Programs Officer](#)



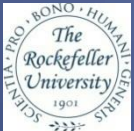
# Summary of Key Resources

- Mentor
- Peers
- RU [Office of Sponsored Programs Administration](#)
  - Forms and format
  - Budget (e.g personnel effort & costs, indirect costs)
  - [Boilerplates](#)
  - Your [Sponsored Programs Officer](#)
  - Website
  - [NIH Fellowship Checklist](#)
- Sponsor's website
- NIH
  - [RePORT](#)
  - Program Official
  - [Office of Extramural Research](#)

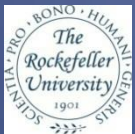


# Preparing the Proposal

- Review scope of the funding opportunity announcement
- Make note of the deadline
- Verify eligibility with your [Sponsored Programs Officer](#)
- Get your Mentor's consent
- Read closely the guidelines/instructions – including special submission requirements
- Design your outline and research plan according to the sponsor's instructions
- Discuss training and research plan with your mentor
- Fully address the review criteria in the order presented by the sponsor



# Questions and Suggestions



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