

SPONSORED RESEARCH AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT (SR-PD)  
[www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/](http://www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/)

# Research Fellowships: Why, What, and How?

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Manager, Outreach and Training

Sponsored Research and Program Development

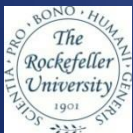
[http://www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/?page=Training\\_Area](http://www.rockefeller.edu/sr-pd/?page=Training_Area)

RRB 110

September 29, 2014

# Why Apply for Funding

- Prepare for a career as an independent investigator
- Contribute to the University mission
- 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)

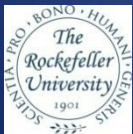


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# University Support for Grant-seeking

The process of seeking and applying for external resources to support research is enabled by the University and coordinated by several departments and offices on campus:

- SR-PD: Sponsored Research & Program Development (program development, pre-award, post-award non-financial, and training)
- [Financial Administration](#) (post-award)
- [Compliance Support](#)
- Infrastructure – Shared [Resource Centers](#)



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# Pre-Doctoral Sponsored Funding

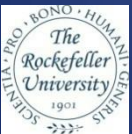
- Fellowships
- Training Grants
- Dissertation Grants



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# Where to Apply

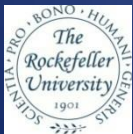
- Federal
  - [NIH](#)
  - [NSF](#)
  - [Department of Defense](#)
  - Other federal sponsors as relevant funding programs are made available
- Foundations
- Internal (via Deans Office and Development)



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# Resources for Finding Funding Opportunities

- SR-PD
  - [Predoctoral Fellowship Funding Sources](#)
  - [Funding Opportunities Database](#)
  - SR-PD weekly Funding alerts
  - 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 [Predoctoral Fellowship Funding Sources](#)

# NSF GRFP Application

- Submitted directly by applicant via NSF FastLane
- Application Components:
  - Personal, Relevant Background and Future Goals (3 pages)
  - Graduate Research Statement (2 pages)
  - Transcripts, uploaded into FastLane
  - Three letters of reference required
  - Additional info may be required – see solicitation



# Tips for NSF Fellowships

- Review GRFP announcement NSF [14-590](#)
- Address the two Merit Review Criteria
  - Intellectual Merit
    - Strength of Academic Record
    - Research Plan
    - Previous Experience and/or publications
    - Institution
  - Broader Impacts
    - Educational Experiences
    - Integration of research & education
    - Potential to reach diverse audiences and benefit society

# Changes to NSF GRFP

- Eligibility criteria
  - Applicants must have completed no more than 12 months of completed graduate study as of 8/1/14.
  - Professional study and coursework now counts toward this 12 month limit
- Reference letter deadline
  - November 6, 2014
- Updates to Fields of Study
  - Review [Appendix](#)

# NDSEG Fellowship

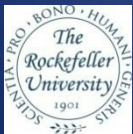
- [National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship](#)
- Eligibility
  - US citizenship requirement
  - Field of study must fit into one of the supported disciplines – Biosciences
  - At or near the beginning of doctoral studies (less than 2 years graduate study)
- Fellowship is for 3 years and covers tuition, fees, and stipend from \$30,500 - \$31,500
- Applications dues 12/12/14



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# NIH Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA)

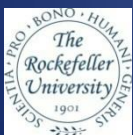
- [F31 Predoctoral](#)  
supports promising doctoral candidates who will be performing dissertation research and training in scientific health-related fields
- [F32 Postdoctoral](#)  
supports promising applicants with potential to become productive and successful independent research investigators in 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



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# NIH Fellowships Awards Summarized

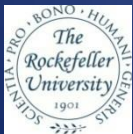
	F30	F31	F32
Citizenship Eligibility	USA or Permanent Resident	USA or Permanent Resident	USA or Permanent Resident
Length of Project Period	Up to 5 years mentored	Up to 5 years mentored	Up to 3 years mentored
Estimated Range of Annual Direct Costs	\$26,676 plus partial tuition & fees	\$26,676 plus partial tuition & fees	\$49,850 - \$63,122 (varies with years of postdoctoral experience)
Type of Training	MD/PhD students	PhD students (or equivalent)	Post-doctoral
Minimum effort committed to research training program	100%	100%	100%
Letters required	Mentor plus 3 referees	Mentor plus 3 referees	Mentor plus 3 referees
Participating NIH Institutes (check PA for listing as not all ICs participate)	<a href="#">PA-14-150</a>	<a href="#">PA-14-147</a>	<a href="#">PA-14-149</a>



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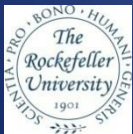
# Tips for NIH Training Fellowships

- Require 100% commitment towards research training
- Recognized/experienced mentor(s) is advised
- Training plan must be clear, focused, as well as exciting and practical
- Biosketches should reflect the potential of the candidate and the qualifications of the mentor
- Highlight coursework and professional work directly related to your research topic
- Review relevant [Guidelines for Reviewers](#) and Review Criteria in FOA



# American Heart Association

- No citizenship requirements (must have approved Visa)
- Objective: to initiate careers in cardiovascular and stroke research
- [Founders Affiliate](#) – 1/13/15 deadline
- You should be done with coursework and devoting 100% effort to research at time of award activation (July 1)
- \$22,000 stipend plus \$1,000 for health insurance over two years
- [Review Criteria](#): Trainee potential; Sponsor/Training Plan and Environment; Evaluation of Research Proposal



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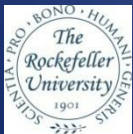
# Tips for All Fellowships

- Follow guidelines to the letter!
  - Some sponsors are especially interested in more novel/innovative projects (Gates Foundation)
  - 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

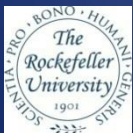


# Timeframe of Grant-Seeking Process

The grant-seeking process is long and could take 12 months or even longer from initial planning, identifying relevant opportunities, writing applications, submitting, going through the review process, to award making and start date!

[Grants Process at a Glance](#)

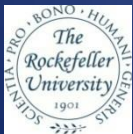
[Standard Due Dates for Competing Applications](#)



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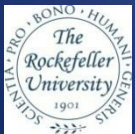
# Steps To Beginning Your Proposal

- Start early, approx. 6-9 months before deadline
- 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 Grants Management Specialist



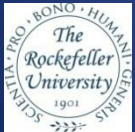
# Summary of Key Resources

- Mentor
- Peers
- RU [Sponsored Research and Program Development](#)
  - Forms and format
  - Budget (e.g personnel effort & costs, indirect costs)
  - [Boilerplates](#)
  - Your Grants Management Specialist
  - 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 [Grants Management Specialist](#)
- 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



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# NIH Peer Review: Scored Criteria

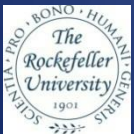
1. Fellowship Applicant
2. Sponsors, Collaborators, Consultants
3. Research Training Plan
4. Training Potential
5. Institutional Environment and Commitment to Training



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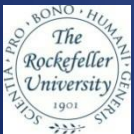
# NIH Review: Compliance Areas

1. Protections for human subjects
2. Inclusion of women, minorities, and children
3. Vertebrate animals
4. Biohazards
5. Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research
6. Resource Sharing Plans



# Submission Process

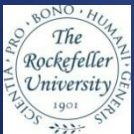
- Complete University [Routing Form](#)
- For full review and institutional sign-off, submit complete packet to SR-PD at least 5 business days before sponsor's deadline
- If paper submission: after institutional sign-off, send the required # of copies and forward a final copy to SR-PD
- If electronic submission: final copy will be submitted by Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR)
- Visit SR-PD's [Application Review Requirements](#) for more information





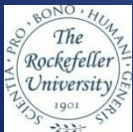
# Electronic Submission

- Most competing grant applications to NIH require electronic submission
  - All NIH fellowships must be submitted electronically
- At RU, NIH grants are submitted via [InfoEd](#)
  - Contact your GMS well before submission to find out about InfoEd training
  - [InfoEd FAQs](#)



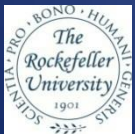
# Post-submission

- Receive confirmation of receipt and assignment
- Note sponsor's decision date
- Receive summary statement
- If fundable score: submit “Just-in-Time” information and address any pending issues on your application; resolve any overlap of science and effort
- If low score or unscored: evaluate the reviewers' comments; speak with your Program Official; prepare resubmission and work with your GMS



# Award Management Contacts

For pre-award and post-award issues, [Contact Us!](#)



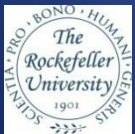
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# Helpful References

- [Sponsored Research and Program Development](#)
- [New Investigators](#)
- [Center for Scientific Review](#)
- [NIH “Writing Your Application”](#)
- [InfoEd](#)
- “Research Proposals: A Guide to Success” 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition



# Questions and Suggestions



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