WHAT TO CONSIDER BEFORE APPLYING TO THE Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

What is the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP)?

The NSF GRFP is one of the most prestigious science and engineering fellowship programs. It supports the development of a *diverse and globally engaged US science and engineering workforce* and provides fellows with:

- Three years of graduate school support.
- **$30,000 annual stipend** (anticipated to increase to **$32,000** for FY13)
- **$12,000 annual cost-of-education allowance** to the institution
- International research and professional development opportunities
- Access to TeraGrid Supercomputer facilities.

The NSF GRFP is intended for students in the *early stages of their graduate career* who are seeking *research-based master's or PhD degrees in NSF-supported disciplines*.

**Eligible Applicants**

- US citizen, US national or permanent resident alien, and
- Graduating seniors who have completed a B.S./B.A. or are in their 1st year or the first semester of their 2nd year in graduate school *(see back of flyer for detailed information on completed study eligibility)*, and
- Pursuing a research-based master’s or doctoral degree in a STEM field supported by NSF, and

**Deadlines for the 2013 NSF GRFP**

**November 13, 2012**
- Engineering
- Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering
- Materials Research

**November 14, 2012**
- Mathematical Sciences
- Chemistry
- Physics and Astronomy

**November 16, 2012**
- Social Sciences
- Psychology
- STEM Education and Learning

**November 19, 2012**
- Life Sciences
- Geosciences

**November 27, 2012**
- Reference letters for all fields of study

All application materials are due at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on the deadline dates. Material submitted after 8:00 p.m. EST on the deadline dates will not be accepted under any circumstances.
**Completed Study**

* You will be asked to select the option that best matches your stage of graduate study. **All graduate study completed as of August 1, 2012 must be counted**, except for graduate-level coursework completed during the undergraduate program. Previous graduate programs should be counted in addition to your current program. Applications are grouped and reviewed by academic level during the panel evaluations.

- Senior completing a baccalaureate degree. I am in my final year of a baccalaureate program and will have completed the program before Fall 2013, or I have received my baccalaureate degree and have never been enrolled in a graduate program, or I am in the fourth year of a five-year joint baccalaureate-master’s degree program.

- First year graduate student in the Summer or Fall Term 2012. I completed my baccalaureate degree and started my graduate career in Summer or Fall 2012, or I am in the final year of a joint baccalaureate-master’s degree program.

- Second year graduate student in the Summer or Fall Term 2012. I have completed no more than 12 months of full-time graduate study or the equivalent, or I have completed only part-time graduate study or a combination of full- and part-time graduate study with no more than 24 part-time semester hours or 36 part-time quarter hours, or I have completed a joint baccalaureate-master’s degree program and have completed no additional graduate study by August 1, 2012. Participation in summer bridge programs is not counted in the 12-month period.

- More than 12 months of graduate study. I have completed more than 12 months of full-time graduate study and had an interruption of my graduate study of at least 2 consecutive years; I have not earned any graduate or professional degree and have not completed any additional graduate study following the interruption. I would like to be considered eligible based on the extenuating circumstance.

**Extenuating Circumstance**

*Applicants who have completed more than twelve months of graduate study and who have not earned a graduate degree may be considered eligible if they have had an interruption in graduate study of at least two consecutive years prior to November 2012. To be eligible, applicants must have completed no additional graduate study by August 1, 2012. Please see Section IV of the 2013 GRFP Program Solicitation for a description of the extenuating circumstance. You are required to complete a one-page eligibility essay describing your circumstance in the application.*
Categories of applicants that are ineligible:

- Those who do not hold US citizenship, national, or permanent resident status by the application deadline.
- Those who were previously awarded a fellowship from the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program and accepted it.
- Those who have declined the offer of the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship and who did not notify NSF by the published deadline for accepting the Fellowship.
- Those who have earned any graduate or professional degree by August 1, 2012, except applicants who have completed a joint BS/MS program and have not completed any further graduate study outside the joint program.
- Current NSF employees.


Apply at FastLane: [www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/](http://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/)