



Carnegie Mellon University

Fellowships for graduate studies

College of Engineering

Why Pursue a Graduate Fellowships?

- Fellowships are “prestigious” awards – noticed by peers and future employers
- Can increase your chance of admission
- Can increase your chance of working with professors you are most interested in
- Assembles your thoughts and documents needed for graduate applications



NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) (MS or PhD)

- One of the oldest graduate fellowship programs-- covering all disciplines supported by NSF.
- Fellowships provide the student
 - **Annual** stipend of \$34,000 for three years
 - **Annual** \$12,000 for tuition and fees (paid to the institution)
 - Access to professional development opportunities for NSF-supported graduate students.
- Eligibility:
 - US citizens, US national, or permanent resident
 - Pursue a **research-based** M.S. or Ph.D. program in a GRFP-supported field
 - Enrolled in an eligible program at an accredited U.S. graduate institution, with a U.S. campus, by fall following selection
 - Have completed no more than one academic year of full-time graduate study (or the equivalent)
- Application Open: **deadline mid/late October**



**~\$150,000 award
3 years**

**Carnegie
Mellon
University**

GEM fellowship (MS and PhD)



- MS and Ph.D. Engineering/Science Fellows are possible
 - Tuition and stipend for PhD studies up to 5 yr
 - MS fellowships available
- Eligibility: under-represented groups in science and engineering as defined by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics:
 - American Indian/Native
 - African American/Black
 - Hispanic American/Latino
- CMU CIT has the highest number of GEM fellows in participating institutions
 - If you are GEM eligible, we will help you become a GEM Fellow
- Deadline: **Nov 13**
- Link: <https://www.gemfellowship.org/students/gem-fellowship-program/>

- **National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship (NDSEG) (PhD)**

- Deadline: **Nov. 2, 2020**
- **Seniors through 2nd year PhD eligible**
- US Citizens
- \$38,400 annual stipend for 3 years
- Full tuition and all mandatory fees for three years
- \$5,000 travel budget over the Fellow's tenure for professional development
- Up to \$1,200 a year for health insurance.
- <https://ndseg.sysplus.com/>



The Hertz Foundation Graduate Fellowship (PhD)



- Deadline: **Oct. 23, 2020**
- Seniors or first year graduate students
- Must pursue a **PhD degree** in Applied physical and biological sciences, mathematics, or engineering
- The fellowship includes up to five years of funding, valued at up to \$250,000, and the freedom to pursue innovative projects wherever they may lead
- <https://www.hertzfoundation.org/the-fellowship/about/>

Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowships for Minorities (PhD)

- Deadline: **December 17, 2020**
- The Ford Foundation seeks to **increase the diversity of the nation's college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity**, to maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and to increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.
- These fellowships **provide three years of support** for individuals engaged in graduate study leading to a **Doctor of Philosophy** (Ph.D.) or **Doctor of Science** (Sc.D.) degree.
- https://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/FordFellowships/PGA_171962

The Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans

- Deadline: October 29, 2020
- This program honors the contributions of immigrants and children of immigrants to the United States.
- Open to immigrants, and first generation U.S. citizens
- Fellowship supports **one to two years of graduate study** in any field and in any advanced degree-granting program in the United States
- Each Fellow receives up to **\$90,000 in financial support over two years**
- https://pdsoros-fellowships.smapply.io/prog/2021_application/

Graduate Fellowship for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Diversity (GFSD) (MS or PhD)

- Deadline: Online applications open in late August and close around Dec. 1.
- GFSD's goal is to increase the number of American citizens with graduate degrees in STEM fields, emphasizing recruitment of a diverse applicant pool.
- In general GFSD covers the following:
 - Astronomy, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geology, Materials Science, Mathematical Sciences, Physics, and their subdisciplines, and related engineering fields: Chemical, Computer, Electrical, Environmental, Mechanical.
- Provides an annual \$20,000 expense allowance; total allowance funding up to \$120,000.
- Carnegie Mellon is an associated university of GFSD.
 - Apply to GFSD. If awarded, notify CMU department of award. CMU covers tuition and pays full stipend.
- <https://stemfellowships.org>

Other fellowship programs are specific to some fields

- CyberCorps® Scholarship for Service (SFS): <https://www.cmu.edu/ini/about/sfs.html>
- DoD Cyber Scholarship Program (CYSP): <https://public.cyber.mil/cysp/>
- Facebook Fellowship Program: <https://research.fb.com/fellowship/>
- Link Energy Fellowship Program: <https://research.fb.com/fellowship/>

General advice for preparing your Fellowship applications

- Find examples of successful applications
- Read the instructions carefully, make a list of requirements, and pay attention to the timeline
- **Get feedback about your applications** before submitting them
- Carefully select reference letter writers
 - your research/thesis supervisors, internship supervisors, course instructors
 - Identify people who can highlight your achievements and potential
 - Give them plenty of time!
- Essays/Research statements/Personal statements
 - Balance between big picture and technical details; avoid jargon; make a compelling case; reviewers are not necessarily experts in your field
 - Highlight **your potential** and the potential of the research to have broad impacts on the field

Useful links

- NSF GRFP: <https://www.nsfgrfp.org/>
- The GEM program: <https://www.gemfellowship.org/students/gem-fellowship-program/>
- <https://sites.google.com/site/asergp/fellowships>
- <https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~gradfellowships/>
- <https://www.colorado.edu/graduateschool/funding/national-fellowship-opportunities>
- <https://grad.ncsu.edu/students/fellowships-and-grants/national/nationally-competitive-graduate-fellowships/>
- <https://www.gradschools.com/financial-aid/graduate-fellowships-scholarships/fellowships-for-graduate-students>
- <https://grad.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/pdfs/grantwritingadvicefromphilipguo-nsf-ndseg-hertz.pdf>



Questions?