

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Workshop for Engineering

Autumn 2023

Motivation

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) is a prestigious fellowship program that advances the potential for graduate students to conduct high-quality research by providing competitive stipends for up to three years of graduate work. Reducing the challenge of procuring additional funding or significant teaching loads, allows students to advance their careers by focusing on their research, leading and taking part in outreach and education, establishing collaborations, and disseminating the results of their work as effectively as possible. More information is available here: <http://www.nsfgrfp.org/>.

Eligibility

University of Washington Engineering students that are eligible and interested in applying for the NSF GRFP in Autumn 2023.

Objectives

1. Provide a structured, collaborative environment in which students applying for the NSF GRFP can benefit from the advice and guidance of current/previous fellowship recipients as well as faculty and post-doctoral researchers.
2. Encourage and facilitate applicant peer groups in providing informal feedback to each other.
3. Build important skills in scientific proposal development and peer review.

Workshop location

Virtual sessions will be on [Zoom](#) (Meeting ID: 992 5904 1783); In-person sessions will be held in Paul G. Allen Center ECE building room ECE 303.

Schedule and Syllabus

Agenda	To-Do List	
	Applicants	Mentors
Thursday, September 7 (Virtual) 5:30 - 7:00 pm 1. Lecture: Overview of NSF GRFP, application components, and timeline 2. Letters of recommendation 3. Student awardee panel (45 mins) 4. Small group social	By September 10: Initiate requests for letters of recommendation - Prepare/update CV - Review example applications	Schedule/hold individual meetings to check-in with mentees by September 13

<p>Thursday, September 21 (Virtual) 5:30 - 7:00 pm</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture: Review application components, with a focus on the Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts, and check in on letters of recommendation Advice from GRFP reviewers/panel (45 mins) Break-out groups: Review of CVs, and discussions of research ideas 	<p>Write proposal summaries and send to your group by Sunday, September 24 (10 pm PT)</p>	<p>Review proposal summaries by September 25 session</p>
<p>Tuesday, September 26 (In-person/virtual) 5:30 - 7:00 pm</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Guest speaker: Proposal writing & Q+A (bring your questions!) Share handout: principles for good scientific writing Group work: Review proposal summaries, and upcoming first drafts 	<p>Write first draft essays and send to group by Sunday, October 1 (10 pm PT)</p> <p>Send feedback on first drafts to fellow applicants in your group by Thursday, October 5 (5:00 pm PT)</p>	<p>First draft reviews to applicants by Thursday, October 5 (5:00 pm PT)</p>
<p>Monday, October 2 (In-person) 5:30 - 7 pm</p> <p><i>Office hours and optional group meeting time. Groups are welcome to meet on their own if desired and if mentor availability allows, or mentees can address questions via email.</i></p>	<p>Space will still be booked for us and Lauren/Ed will be available if applicants want to chat about anything or have questions. Snacks will be provided as during other weeks!</p>	
<p>Monday October 9 (In-person) 5:30 - 7:00 pm</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Large group discussion: Questions on second drafts, final essays, etc. Lecture: NSF-style review for next week's session Group work: Review second drafts 	<p>Final essays to mentors by Wednesday, October 11 (10 pm PT)</p> <p>Send reminders and any additional materials (i.e., essays) to letter writers</p>	<p>Final draft reviews to applicants by Friday, October 13 (5:00 pm PT)</p> <p>Inform coordinators of October 16 availability by October 9 (10 pm PT)</p>
<p>Monday, October 16 (Optional/In-person) 5:30-7:00 pm</p> <p>NSF-style timed review of final drafts</p>	<p>Make final revisions for submission by October 19</p>	
<p>NSF Submission due for Engineering is October 19, 2023, 5:00 pm local time</p>		
<p>Monday, October 23 (Optional/In-person) 5:30-7:00 pm</p>	<p>SMART Program due December 5, 2023, 5:00 PM EST</p>	

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lecture: Debrief and what's next? 2. Lecture/panel: DoD Smart Fellowship 3. Group work: create and identify relevant funding opportunities 	NASA NSTGRO (last year was Nov 2, 2022)	
<p>Monday, October 30 (Optional/In-person) 5:30-7:00 pm</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lecture/panel: Dept of Energy Fellowships 2. Group work: CV improvement 	SCGSR Program (May and Nov)	

For more information, contact the workshop coordinators:

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