

Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships

<http://national-academies.org/fellowships>

Deadline: early November

Fields of Study

Awards will be made for study in research-based Ph.D. or Sc.D. programs that include the following major disciplines and related interdisciplinary fields: anthropology, archaeology, art history, astronomy, chemistry, communications, computer science, earth sciences, economics, education, engineering, ethnomusicology, geography, history, international relations, language, life sciences, linguistics, literature, mathematics, performance study, philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, religion, sociology, and urban planning. Awards will *not* be made in practice-oriented programs or areas such as areas as medicine, law, and public health.

Description

Through its program of Diversity Fellowships, 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.

Sixty Predoctoral Fellowships (three years), 30 Dissertation Fellowships (one year) and 20 Postdoctoral fellowships (one year) will be awarded in a national competition conducted by the National Research Council on behalf of the Ford Foundation. Each Predoctoral Fellowship will include an annual stipend of \$17,000 and a grant towards tuition for three years. The dissertation fellowship provides \$24,000 and the postdoctoral fellowship \$40,000 for one year.

Applicants for Predoctoral Fellowships may be in their senior year, have completed undergraduate study, or already be enrolled in a Ph.D. program who provide evidence that they can fully utilize a three-year fellowship award. Tenure for Predoctoral Fellowships will be nine or twelve months for each of the three fellowship years. Fellowship recipients must begin the fellowship tenure in September of the following year and remain for at least one full academic year. After the first year of fellowship tenure, fellows may choose to defer funding for up to two years. The three years of support must, however, be used within a five-year period.

Criteria for Selection

Fellowships are awarded in a national competition administered by the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academies on behalf of the Ford Foundation. The awards will be made to individuals who, in the judgment of the review panels, have demonstrated superior academic achievement, are committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level, show promise of future achievement as scholars and teachers, and are well prepared to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.

The following will be considered as positive factors in choosing successful candidates:

- Evidence of superior academic achievement
- Degree of promise of continuing achievement as scholars and teachers.
- Membership in one or more of the following groups whose under-representation in the American professoriate has been severe and longstanding:
 - Alaska Natives (Eskimo or Aleut)
 - Black/African Americans
 - Mexican Americans/Chicanas/Chicanos
 - Native American Indians
 - Native Pacific Islanders (Polynesian/Micronesian)
 - Puerto Ricans

- Capacity to respond in pedagogically productive ways to the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds
- Sustained personal engagement with communities that are underrepresented in the academy and an ability to bring this asset to learning, teaching, and scholarship at the college and university level
- Likelihood of using the diversity of human experience as an educational resource in teaching and scholarship.

Review panels may also look at additional factors such as the suitability of the proposed institution for the applicant's plan of graduate study and the likelihood that the applicant will fully utilize three years of support including a year of course work.

Eligible: All citizens or nationals of the United States regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation. Permanent residents are not eligible. Applicants must provide evidence of superior academic achievement (such as grade point average, class rank, honors or other designations) and commitment to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level.

Application Procedure

Online application materials are available from late August. Applicants need to submit the application to meet the November deadline. Predoctoral Fellowship applicants are required to submit scores from the GRE general aptitude test by December/January. The National Research Council will notify all applicants early in April of the status of their applications.

Additional Information

The Ford Foundation funds several programs:

Predocctoral: <http://www7.nationalacademies.org/FORDfellowships/fordpredoc.html>

Dissertation: <http://www7.nationalacademies.org/FORDfellowships/forddiss.html>

Post-doctoral: <http://www7.nationalacademies.org/FORDfellowships/fordpost.html>

Any student interested in applying for this award is particularly urged to contact:
Jenni Marsh, Coordinator, National/International Fellowships and Scholarships Meetings by appointment. To arrange, call 355-2326 or email: marshje3@msu.edu