Funding & Grant Writing

August 17th, 2021

Facilitators: Elise Elwood (she|her|hers)
Darien Satterfield (she|her|hers)
Maddie Armstrong (she|her|hers)

Preview Day Organizers & Presenters


Alexus Roberts


Danielle De La Pascua


Darien Satterfield


Claire Murphy


Keira Monuki


Katherine Corn


Sivan Yair


Elena Suglia


Madison Armstrong


Hannah Nelson


Elise Elwood

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Week 1	2	3 **Nuts & Bolts of Grad School** 	4	5 **Personal/ Diversity Statement Workshop** 	6
Week 2	9	10 **How to Apply & Timeline** 	11	12 **Office Hours** 	12
Week 3	16	17 **Funding & Grant Writing** 	18	19 **Navigating Grad School Identity Panel** 	20
Week 4	23	24 **Find a Good Fit** 	25	26 **Office Hours** 	27
Week 5	30	31 **Is this Right for Me?** 	1	2 **Wrap-Up!** 	*All sessions will be 5:00-6:30pm PST via Zoom*

Session Scope & Facilitator Roles

Scope
90 minute workshops are an introduction, with resources to dig deeper!

Roles
We are peer facilitators, here to help guide participants' discovery.

Session Norms

Please have video on, if possible

Stay muted unless speaking

Use the “raise your hand” feature or chat us if you have a question or comment

Be respectful, be curious

Session Goals

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. Understand how graduate students are funded
2. Identify and understand how to apply for relevant fellowships

Ice Breaker

What is the last thing you bought for yourself that makes you happy?

Session Overview

- What are the main ways grad students are funded?
- Fellowships and grants

Part 1: Graduate student funding

- Overview of the main ways grad students are funded
- Other financial considerations
- Every student's situation is different
- Comparing stipends
- Understanding responsibilities, income, and your personal priorities

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- **Overview of the main ways grad students are funded**
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Science PhD students are paid!

- Graduate students are part-time employees that get paid via:
  - teaching assistant
  - research assistant
  - fellowship
  - other administrative work

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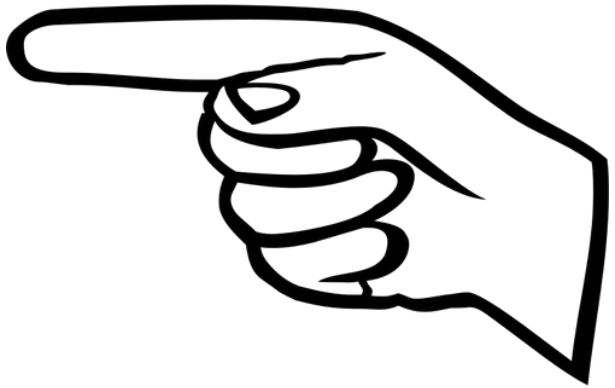
- Students receive “tuition remission” meaning that the university pays the tuition and the students are **not** required to pay this.

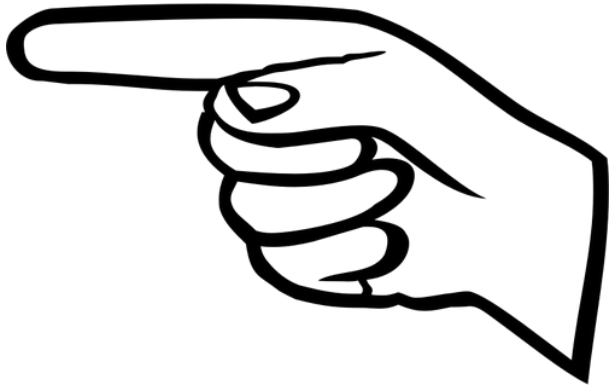
Funding: Stipend vs. Research Funding

Stipend = Funds YOU!

- TA = “Teaching Assistant”
- RA/GA/GSR = “Research Assistant”
- Fellowships



Funding: Stipend vs. Research Funding



Stipend = Funds YOU!

- TA = “Teaching Assistant”
- RA/GA/GSR = “Research Assistant”
- Fellowships

Research funds = Funds YOUR RESEARCH!

- Advisor grants for a specific topic, advisor resources
- Apply to student research grants
- *Your research = your dissertation

Teaching Assistant (TA)

Responsibilities and skills gained:

- Teach a lab or discussion session
- Provide feedback to students
- Grade homework assignments or exams

Workload:

- ~20 hours a week, @UCD this is protected through a teacher's union
- Typically teach a course you are already familiar with the material, but may need to brush up on topics to better support your students!

Research Assistant (RA or GSR)

Responsibilities and skills gained:

- “Hired” by a researcher (typically your PI) to complete research.
- Data collection/analyses, Writing, Organizing undergraduates, etc

Workload:

- @UCD there is a union being created to help regulate workload

Fellowships

Types:

- Fellowships may cover your tuition, fees, and/or salary.
  - Internal: University or Program specific
  - External: Open to all grad students that meet the requirements (GRFP, Ford Fellowship, NIFA, Fullbright…)

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Responsibilities and skills gained:

- Particular requirements of the fellowship (reports due, workshops attended or led, volunteer work, internships, etc..)

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- Particular requirements of the fellowship (reports due, workshops attended or led, volunteer work, internships, etc..)

Workload: With a fellowship you are able to spend lots of time on your dissertation

Part 1: Graduate student funding

- Overview of the main ways grad students are funded
- **Other financial considerations**
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- Understanding responsibilities, income, and your personal priorities

Time-frame and stability of funding

- Most PhD programs take 4-7 years to complete.
- Graduate programs vary in what they guarantee to their students.
    - UC Davis Population biology guarantees 5 years of funding (TA, GSR, Fellowships) but many students continue past that timeframe.

Time-frame and stability of funding

- Most PhD programs take 4-7 years to complete.
- Graduate programs vary in what they guarantee to their students.
  - UC Davis Population biology guarantees 5 years of funding (TA, GSR, Fellowships) but many students continue past that timeframe.
- Most schools offer the ability to take time off during and/or at the end of your PhD, this can be for health reasons, for external opportunities (Fulbrights, internships, etc..).

Housing and moving

- University email lists or bulletins can be a great way to find housing
- Some universities have affordable housing for graduate students

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- University email lists or bulletins can be a great way to find housing
- Some universities have affordable housing for graduate students
- At many universities, there is a delay between the program start and your first paycheck

Student loans

- You can defer student loans while in graduate school
- However, interest may still accruing, so be aware!

Other financial resources

- Many, but not all, PhD programs provide health insurance
- Some universities have food pantries that grad students are eligible to use

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- Many, but not all, PhD programs provide health insurance
- Some universities have food pantries that grad students are eligible to use
- Universities and graduate groups may have hardship grants or loans
  - https://financialaid.ucdavis.edu/wellness/ECRT
  - Ask department personnel and current students for advice
  - Fill out the FAFSA yearly
- Graduate student income is taxed, fellowships will not withhold taxes and thus you should be prepared to make tax payments.

Part 1: Graduate student funding

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Funding is like a taco bell menu..

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- You don’t necessarily know what something is until you ask!
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- Everyone’s combo is a little different and your own may change.

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- You don’t necessarily know what something is until you ask!
- You DO NOT want to leave your order to chance!
- Everyone’s combo is a little different and your own may change.
- There are always new surprises!

Part 1: Graduate student funding

- Overview of the main ways grad students are funded.
- Other financial considerations
- Every student's situation is different
- **Comparing stipends**
- Understanding responsibilities, income, and your personal priorities

Comparing stipends between programs

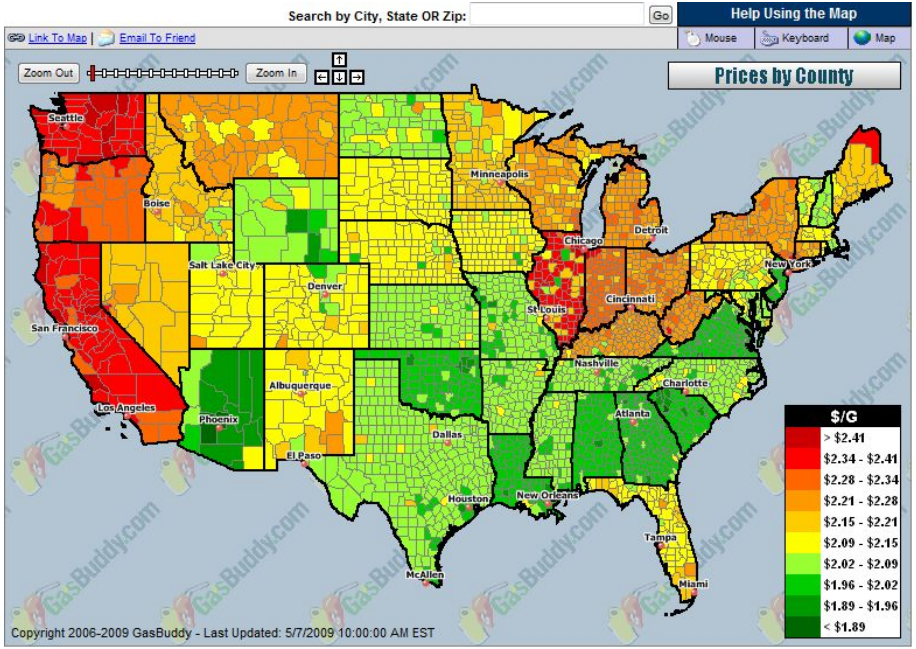
- Stipends vary by university and program and even between labs and students
- And you will have your own specific needs

Comparing stipends between programs

UC Davis Population Biology

Stipend = $32,321

Cost of Living (1 Adult, 0 children) = $28,053



Comparing stipends between programs

- Stipends may be listed online, you can contact the academic coordinator for up-to-date information
- You can get a sense of the cost of living with the MIT Living Wage calculator
  - https://livingwage.mit.edu/
  - These numbers are averages and may not reflect your situation
  - Talk to grad students at programs you're applying to!

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- Your funding $\neq$ your programs funding, can vary by professor, by year in the program, by experience, by funding source (TA,RA,Fellowship).

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- You can combine multiple funding sources (@UCDavis 10-30 hrs).

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- Your funding ≠ your programs funding, can vary by professor, by year in the program, by experience, by funding source (TA,RA,Fellowship).
- You can combine multiple funding sources (@UCDavis 10-30 hrs).
- Stability of stipends.

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Example student's stipend and research funding:

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Ava

- They have a busy summer field season and their advisor only has support for a research assistantship for 1 quarter. Ava TA's in the fall and spring quarters, and chooses to TA 30 hours a week for a higher salary during the fall and spring.

- Ava was awarded small internal grants to fund their dissertation research in addition to travel funding from a collaborator at a different university.

Example student's stipend and research funding:

Ben

- He has a external fellowship that pays part of his salary and a partial research assistant position with his PI. He earns $27,000. He helps his PI with some work but mostly spends his time on his dissertation.

- His PI has grant funding that Ben uses to fund his fieldwork and his wet lab work.

Example student's stipend and research funding:

Elesha

- She was awarded a GRFP and is on a fellowship year, she makes $34,000.

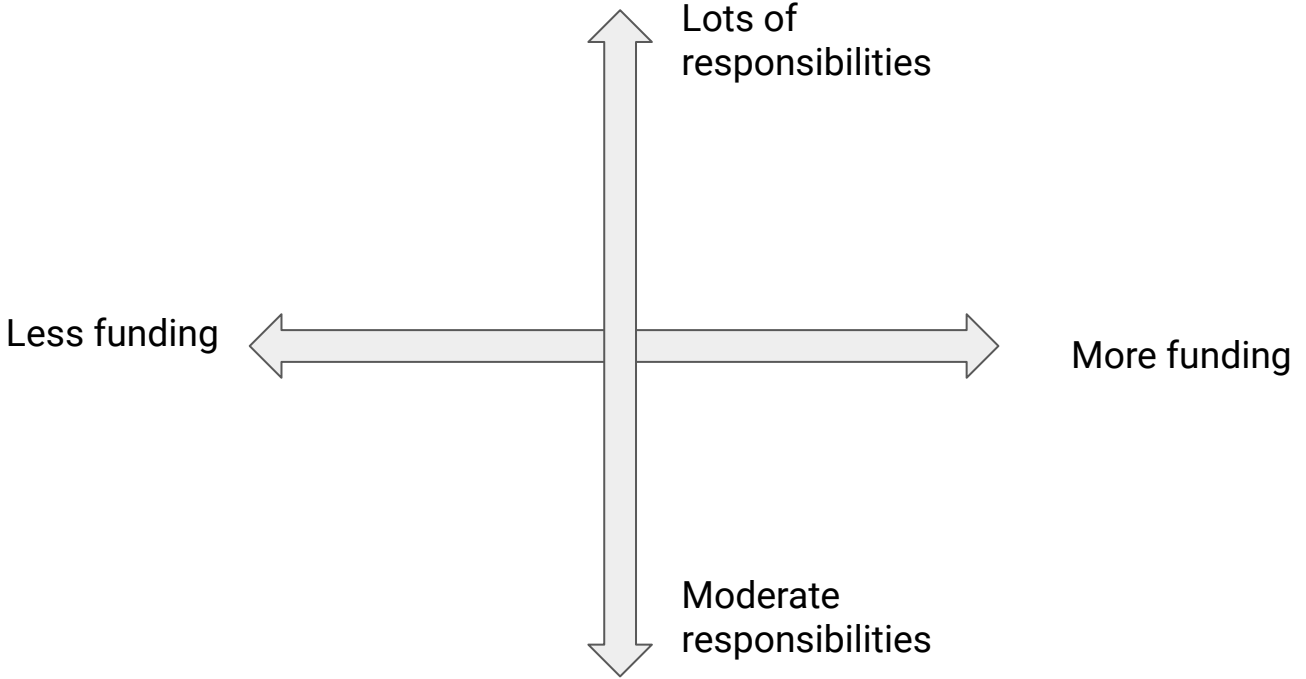
- She has also been awarded small grants from her department and graduate group to fund her dissertation research.

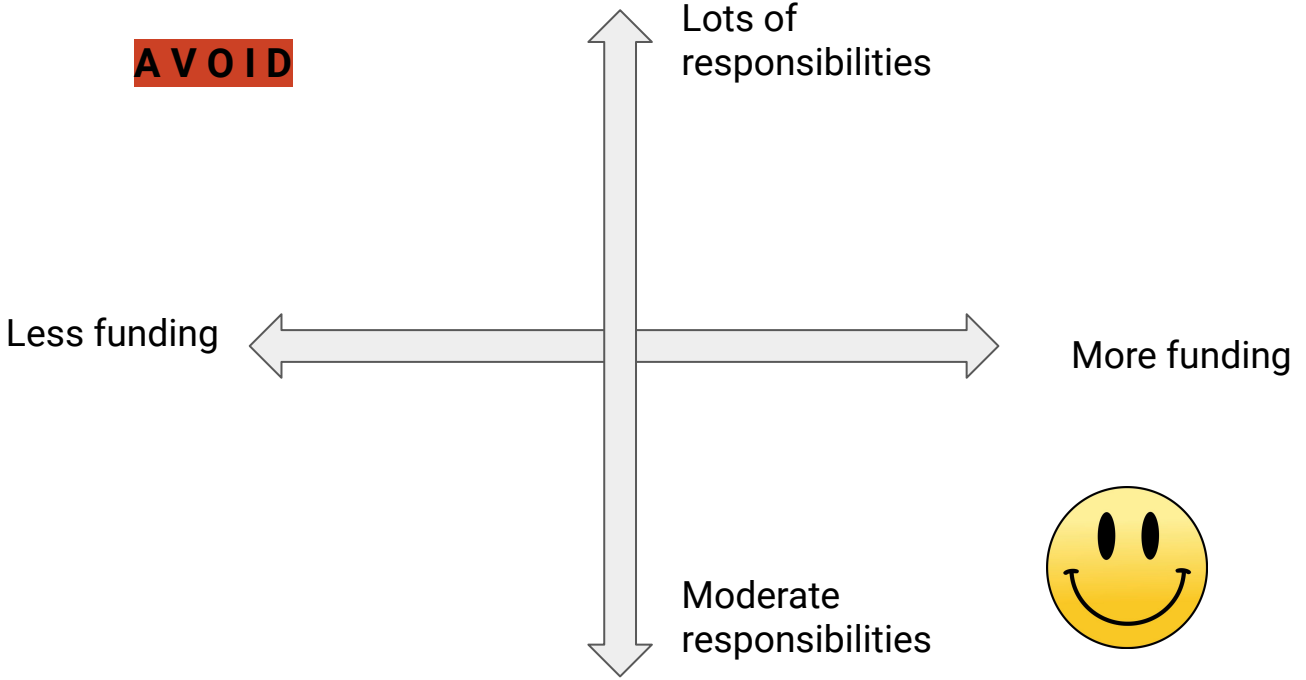
Example student's stipend and research funding:

Filip

- His offer letter said he would make $23000, however his PI has a big grant and wants everyone in the lab to have an equal salary, he makes $30000 through a combination of teaching and research assistant positions related to his PI's grant.

- He does mostly computational work and does not require money to fund his dissertation.


Lots of responsibilities
Less funding
More funding
Moderate responsibilities


AVOID
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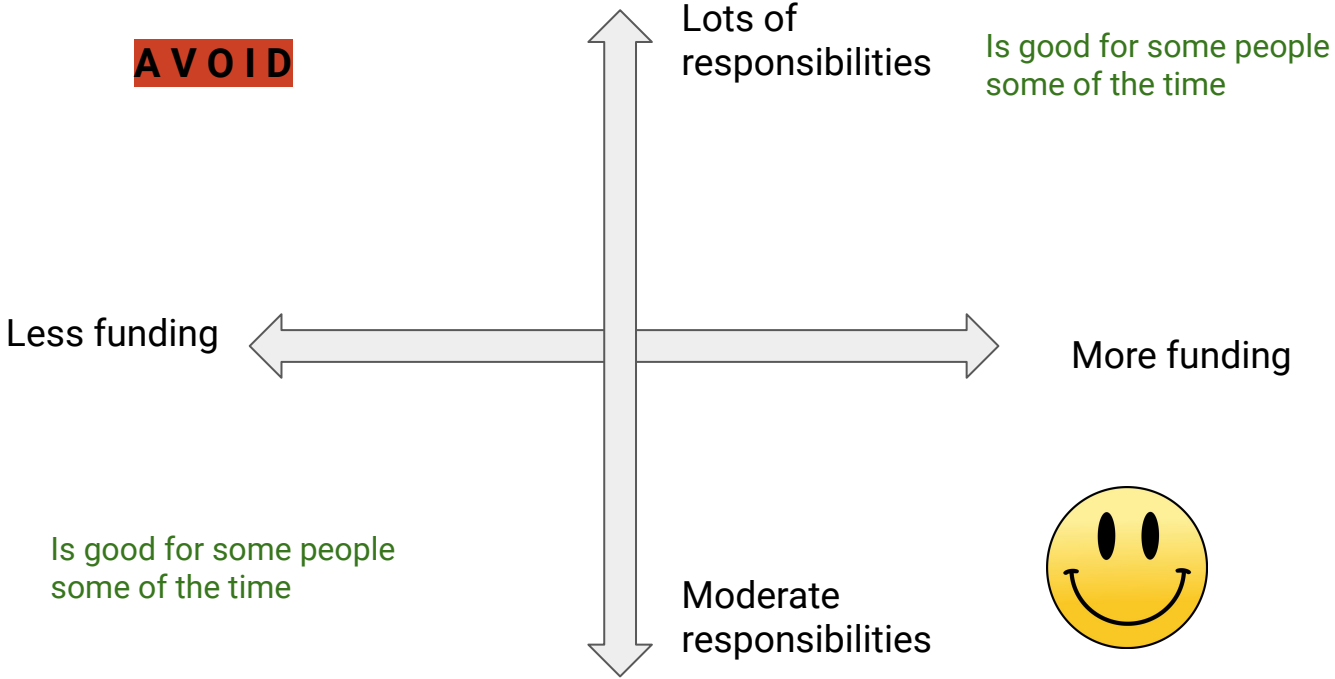

AVOID
Lots of responsibilities
Is good for some people some of the time
Less funding
More funding
Is good for some people some of the time
Moderate responsibilities

Ask lots of questions!

AVOID

Lots of responsibilities

Is good for some people some of the time

Less funding

More funding

Is good for some people some of the time

Moderate responsibilities

Breakout session 1- Brainstorm!

In your breakout rooms, brainstorm 3 questions about funding that you want to be able to confidently ask in each of the following situations:

1. Before applying
2. During interview weekend - Questions for your potential advisor
3. During interview weekend - Questions for graduate students.

Questions ideas!

Red flags

- Advisor is unwilling to engage in a conversation about funding.
- Vague statements such as: “we are well funded” , “We’ll figure it out”, “You will have to TA some of the time”, etc..

Red flags

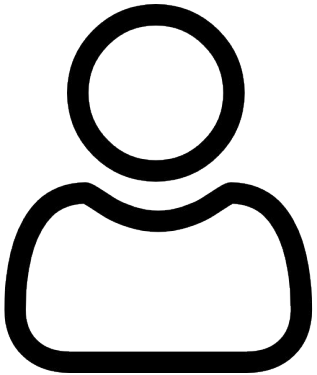
- Advisor is unwilling to engage in a conversation about funding.
- Vague statements such as: “we are well funded” , “We’ll figure it out”, “You will have to TA some of the time”, etc..
- Current graduate students seem stressed about having enough money to live on.
- Current graduate students rely on support from parents or spouses.

Part 2: Fellowships and grants

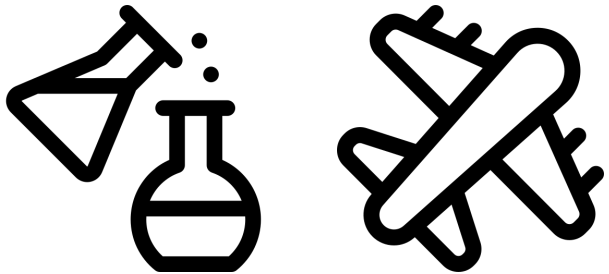
- **Fellowships and grants: an overview**
- Finding and applying for funding opportunities
- Fellowship focus: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program

Fellowships and Grants

Fellowships: Can cover stipend, tuition. “Awarded to the person.”



Grants: Can cover the cost of research and attending conferences and workshops. “Awarded to the project.”



Freepik, Flaticon.com

Funding

Poll: Are you planning to apply for a fellowship/grant for graduate school?

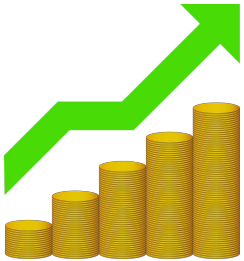
A) Yes, I'm applying for a fellowship this year
B) Yes, I plan to apply when I apply for graduate school in the future
C) No, I do not plan to apply for a fellowship
D) I'm not sure yet

Funding: Why apply?

Type in the chat why you think you might apply for your own funding

Funding: Why apply?

Fund you so that you can focus on your research!



May pay you more than your program can

Help you get into grad school

Learning Opportunities and Resources

Part 2: Fellowships and grants

- Fellowships and grants: an overview
- **Finding and applying for funding opportunities**
- Fellowship focus: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program

Finding the right fellowship for you

Mentors and Facilitators: **Please put in the chat how you heard about or found the grants and fellowships you apply for**

https://eeb.ku.edu/funding-opportunities

UC Davis Internal Fellowships

Look For Grants from Research and Academic Societies

Finding the right fellowship for you

01 **Priorities**	• Supporting innovation in STEM research • Training leaders in higher education • Specific research areas • Diversity in STEM/higher education
02 **Responsibilities**	• Adequate degree progress • Annual reports • Internships or practicums • Specific course of study
03 **Eligibility**	• Citizenship or residency requirements ○ https://immigrantsrising.org/2020scholarships/ • Limits on amount of previous graduate education

How to apply for fellowships: application materials

1. Curriculum Vitae

Madison Armstrong

Center for Population Biology
University of California, Davis
ac mlarmstrong@ucdavis.edu

Education

2019–present **Ph.D. Population Biology**, *University of California, Davis*, Davis, CA.
Cumulative GPA: 4.0 NRT Sustainable Oceans Cohort Member Advisor: Dr. Rachael Bay

2015–2019 **B.S. Biology**, *Washington State University*, Pullman, WA.
minor in Genetics & Cell Biology, Cumulative GPA: 3.75, Summa Cum Laude Graduate, Dean's list all semesters. *Thesis Title: The Evolution of Plastic Expression as an Explanation of Invasion Success* Advisor: Dr. Mark Dybdahl

Publications

In Prep **Armstrong, M., Smithson, M., and Dybdahl, M.**, Variation in shell morphology and upstream movement within and between clonal lineages of an invasive snail, *Biological Invasions*.

Research Experience

2016 – 2019 ***Undergraduate Researcher, Laboratory of Dr. Mark Dybdahl.***
Conducted an independent research project on the evolution of plastic gene expression as an explanation of invasion success of the clonal New Zealand mudsnail, *Potamopyrgus antipodarum*. Authored and received funding for multiple research proposals (see Honors/Grants section). Presented my research findings at the university, local and national level since 2015 (see Presentations section).

2017–2018, Summer 2019 ***Research Assistant, Laboratory of Dr. David Crowder.***
Aided in a wide-range of research projects addressing plant-insect interactions in agricultural systems. Assisted with greenhouse experiments and molecular techniques.

2016 ***Undergraduate Research Assistant, Laboratory of Dr. Paul Nabity.***
Conducted PCR analysis and gel electrophoresis to investigate species differentiation of plant species infected by Phylloxera Collaboratively created and utilized a DNA isolation protocol.

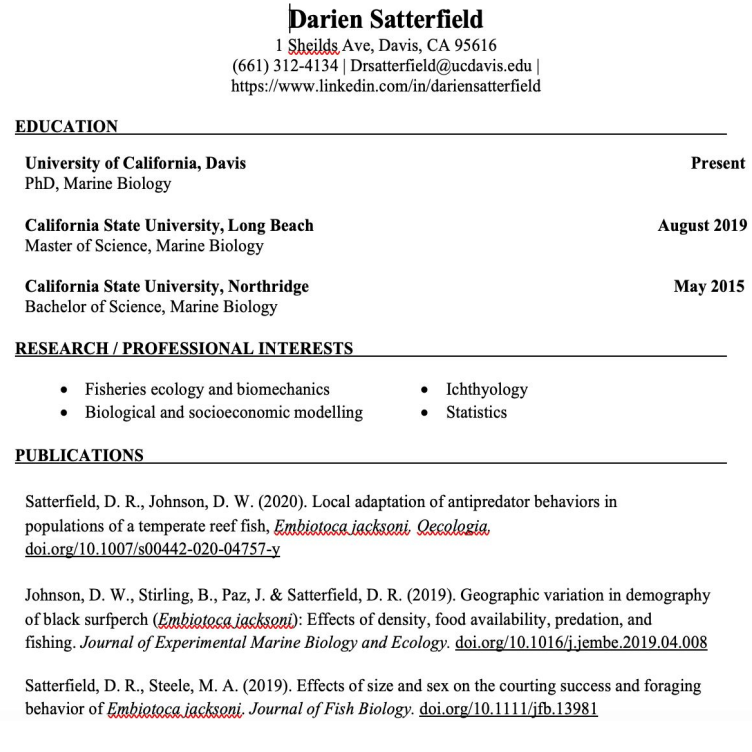
2015–2016 ***Undergraduate Research Assistant, Laboratory of Dr. Mark Dybdahl.***
Measured protein differentiation to differentiate clonal types of the model organism, New Zealand freshwater snail, through allozyme electrophoresis. Aided in data analysis for the Great Lakes Invasion Study.

2014 ***Research Assistant for Operation Wallacea in Ecuador.***
Traveled to Ecuador with a and a small group of students to work with a conservation-focused company based out of the U.K. and scientists from around the world. Attended lectures and aided in specimen sampling in the cloud forest and lowlands of Ecuador for two weeks.

Teaching Experience

2020, 2021 ***Teaching Assistant for Introduction to Evolution (EVE100) with Dr. Santiago Ramirez and Dr. Artyom Kopp.***
Taught a variety of topics under the broad field of evolution ranging from parismony, hardy wainberg equilibrium and phenotypic plasticity. Led weekly virtual discussion sections and wrote homework and exam questions to assess student learning.

2017 ***Teaching Assistant for Mammalogy (Bio 428 at WSU) with Dr. Daniela Monk.***
Prepared lab materials each week with the proper specimen by communicating with the campus museum curator (Dr. Kelly Cassidy) to retrieve the necessary specimen from the research collection. Formatted worksheets and exams to accomplish learning outcomes and increase student success.



Darien Satterfield
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(661) 312-4134 | Drsatterfield@ucdavis.edu |
https://www.linkedin.com/in/dariensatterfield

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis **Present**
PhD, Marine Biology

California State University, Long Beach **August 2019**
Master of Science, Marine Biology

California State University, Northridge **May 2015**
Bachelor of Science, Marine Biology

RESEARCH / PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

- Fisheries ecology and biomechanics
- Biological and socioeconomic modelling
- Ichthyology
- Statistics

PUBLICATIONS

Satterfield, D. R., Johnson, D. W. (2020). Local adaptation of antipredator behaviors in populations of a temperate reef fish, *Embiotoca jacksoni*. *Oecologia*. doi.org/10.1007/s00442-020-04757-y

Johnson, D. W., Stirling, B., Paz, J. & Satterfield, D. R. (2019). Geographic variation in demography of black surfperch (*Embiotoca jacksoni*): Effects of density, food availability, predation, and fishing. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*. doi.org/10.1016/j.jembe.2019.04.008

Satterfield, D. R., Steele, M. A. (2019). Effects of size and sex on the courting success and foraging behavior of *Embiotoca jacksoni*. *Journal of Fish Biology*. doi.org/10.1111/jfb.13981

How to apply for fellowships: application materials

1. Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Transcripts

DARIEN ROSE SATTERFIELD

GRADUATE ACADEMIC RECORD

CURRENT COLLEGE(S): GRADUATE STUDIES
CURRENT MAJOR(S): POPULATION BIOLOGY

ADMITTED: FALL QUARTER 2019

INSTITUTION CREDIT:

FALL QUARTER 2019

EVE	231	PRINCIPLE BIO DATA ANALY	S	3.00	.00
PBG	200A	PRINCIPLES POP BIO	A	5.00	20.00
PBG	290	SEMINAR	S	1.00	.00
PBG	290C	RESEARCH CONFERENCE	S	1.00	.00
PBG	292	TOPICS IN ECOL & EVOL	S	1.00	.00
PBG	299	RESEARCH	S	1.00	.00

	COMPL	ATTM	PSSD	GPTS	GPA
TERM:	12.00	5.00	5.00	20.00	4.000
UC CUM:	12.00	5.00	5.00	20.00	4.000

WINTER QUARTER 2020

EVE	103	PHYLOGENY/SPECIATION	A	4.00	16.00
PBG	200B	PRINCIPLES POP BIO	A	6.00	24.00
PBG	290	SEMINAR	S	1.00	.00
PBG	290C	RESEARCH CONFERENCE	S	1.00	.00
PBG	292	TOPICS IN ECOL & EVOL	S	1.00	.00

	COMPL	ATTM	PSSD	GPTS	GPA
TERM:	13.00	10.00	10.00	40.00	4.000
UC CUM:	25.00	15.00	15.00	60.00	4.000

How to apply for fellowships: application materials

1. Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Transcripts
3. Research Statement

Research Proposal

Summary of Proposed Work: Morphology has been long believed to be the strongest predictor of variability in swimming behavior in reef fish. For example, many have asserted that butterfly fish are the most maneuverable fish given their laterally compressed, deep-bodied shape. However, no empirical data has ever been collected on the relationships between morphology and swimming behavior in situ. My preliminary data suggests morphology does not constrain behavior as previously thought. Thus, I am proposing to collect data on damselfish morphology and swimming behavior as they are a keystone family, largely responsible for maintaining algal abundance on reefs. Damselfish are morphologically diverse, and their swimming behaviors contribute to their important functional role. This study will provide an overview of how variation in damselfish morphology relates to variable use of swimming behaviors, in efforts to address the hypothesis that morphology constrains behavior. The resulting data should allow for better prediction of how damselfish body shape limits their ability to groom algae on coral reefs.

Introduction: Swimming is considered the primary mechanism by which fishes interact with their habitat. Specifically, a fish's swimming behavior is believed to be tightly associated with various characteristics of the niche it occupies such as habitat complexity (e.g., reef habitats vs open ocean), predator presence, and prey capture strategy based on food availability (Fulton 2010). To date, variation in fish swimming behavior has been simplified to three performance axes: maneuverability, sustained swimming, and acceleration (Webb 1982,1984; Blake 2004). It is hypothesized that swimming ability on any one performance axis is determined by morphological characteristics such that fishes with intermediate fin and body morphologies are "generalists" which use multiple swimming modes with less efficiency than "specialists" which perform one swimming mode very well (see Webb 1984). Specifically, deep bodied, laterally compressed fishes (e.g., butterflyfish) are hypothesized to be more maneuverable, whereas stiff bodied fishes with streamlined or torpedo shaped bodies (e.g., tuna) are best at sustained swimming, and flexible fishes with larger anterior mass and large fin surface area (e.g., grouper) are most efficient at periodic but rapid swimming (Webb 1982,1984; Blake 2004). However, these hypotheses have never been empirically tested and some studies even suggest that swimming mode may be less constrained by morphology than previously thought (e.g. Gerstner 1999). **My research aims to compare the use of swimming behaviors among fishes with variable body and fin shapes to determine if there are relationships between specific swimming modes and body morphology.**

Hypotheses to be Tested: I will test the hypothesis that as distinct body and fin shapes are optimized for performance on the three axes of swimming, swimming behaviors are constrained by morphology.

How to apply for fellowships: application materials

1. Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Transcripts
3. Research Statement

1) CPB RESEARCH AWARD PROPOSAL

Research proposal: Do not include graphics or JPG images. Text only. Include a title. Two (2) pages maximum (excluding references) explaining specific objectives. Describe research methodology, proposed timetable, and the process by which interpretation of the data will be made.

How to apply for fellowships: application materials

1. Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Transcripts
3. Research Statement
4. Personal Statement

UC Davis Internal Fellowships

Statement of Purpose: Please describe your academic status and objectives, your research interests and accomplishments, your plans for the fellowship period, and the way the fellowship funding will enhance your work and overall career goals.

Personal History Statement: Please discuss how your personal background and/or present circumstances informs your graduate education and research. Please include any educational, familial, cultural, economic, or social experiences, challenges, or opportunities relevant to your academic journey; describe how your life experiences contribute to the social, intellectual, or cultural diversity within your chosen field.

Personal statement

- Highlight your achievements
  - Take items from your CV or personal history and explain why they are important for what you want to do
- Explain how you will contribute to the goals of the fellowship
- Show your passion! This is a chance to explain what motivates you to do research, education, etc. Give the reviewers a sense of who you are.

How to apply for fellowships: application materials

1. Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Transcripts
3. Research Statement
4. Personal Statement
5. Letters of Recommendation

Dear Faculty Member:

The Center for Population Biology has announced its annual call for research and travel award applications. You are being presented this instruction sheet because your graduate student is a graduate student affiliate of the Center and is requesting funding support consideration. Proposals for the annual fellowship call are administered by the Center for Population Biology and reviewed by the CPB/PBGG Fellowship Committee.

Please e-mail a PDF or MS Word letter of recommendation on your departmental letterhead to). In your letter, please briefly address the following qualities of this graduate student affiliate:

1) Promise of scholarship
2) Quality of previous work
3) Ability in research
4) Merit and overall quality of research proposal
5) Student's progress towards the research objectives and/or degree

In writing your letter, keep in mind that a short, informative letter is often more effective than an overly long one.

How to apply for fellowships: application materials

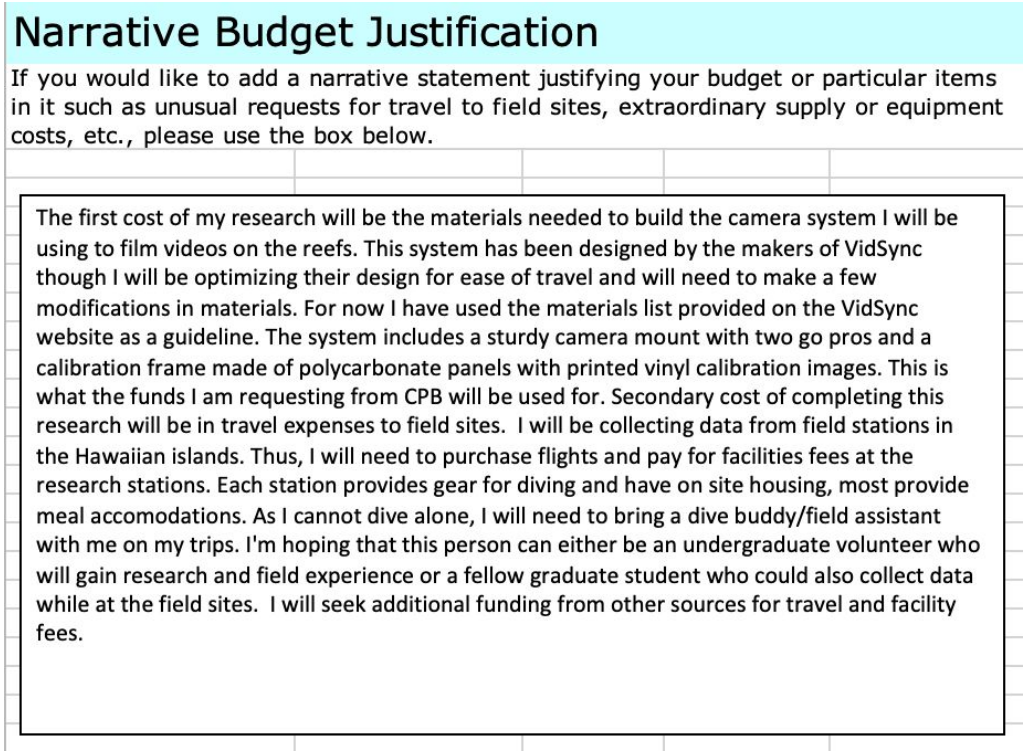
1. Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Transcripts
3. Research Statement
4. Personal Statement
5. Letters of Recommendation
6. Budget and Justification

BUDGET DETAIL 4.2

Equipment	**Unit Cost**	**Item Total**
Describe Equipment		
polycarbonate sheets 36inX36in x 2	$210.00	$420.00
aluminum rods 3/8 X 12in x 6	$4.00	$24.00
professional printing adhesive vinyl	$50.00	$50.00
1x1 80/20 aluminum extrusion rail 3ft x 3	$15.36	$46.08
1x1 80/20 aluminum extrusion rail 2ft x 4	$11.00	$44.00
t-slot 90 degree bracket x 4	$12.00	$48.00
t-slot 60 degree bracket x 2	$12.00	$24.00
t-slot 30 degree bracket x 2	$12.00	$24.00
1X2 inside corner bracket x 2	$9.00	$18.00
	Total equipment	$698.08

How to apply for fellowships: application materials

1. Curriculum Vitae (CV)
2. Transcripts
3. Research Statement
4. Personal Statement
5. Letters of Recommendation
6. Budget and Justification



Narrative Budget Justification

If you would like to add a narrative statement justifying your budget or particular items in it such as unusual requests for travel to field sites, extraordinary supply or equipment costs, etc., please use the box below.

The first cost of my research will be the materials needed to build the camera system I will be using to film videos on the reefs. This system has been designed by the makers of VidSync though I will be optimizing their design for ease of travel and will need to make a few modifications in materials. For now I have used the materials list provided on the VidSync website as a guideline. The system includes a sturdy camera mount with two go pros and a calibration frame made of polycarbonate panels with printed vinyl calibration images. This is what the funds I am requesting from CPB will be used for. Secondary cost of completing this research will be in travel expenses to field sites. I will be collecting data from field stations in the Hawaiian islands. Thus, I will need to purchase flights and pay for facilities fees at the research stations. Each station provides gear for diving and have on site housing, most provide meal accomodations. As I cannot dive alone, I will need to bring a dive buddy/field assistant with me on my trips. I'm hoping that this person can either be an undergraduate volunteer who will gain research and field experience or a fellow graduate student who could also collect data while at the field sites. I will seek additional funding from other sources for travel and facility fees.

Fellowship Structure Can Vary

Dear Darien,

Congratulations! On behalf of Graduate Studies and the Population Biology Graduate Group, I am pleased to offer you a Graduate Research Mentorship Fellowship for academic year 2021-2022. This fellowship supports promising doctoral students who meet the "Diversity" criteria. Please read this award letter carefully, and follow the instructions.

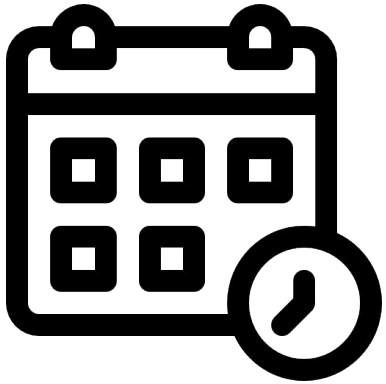
The details of your award are as follows:

Stipend	$28,800.00*
Full Graduate Student Tuition and Fees (includes UC Student Health Insurance Plan fees)	$19,000.00**
Research Allowance	$600.00***
TOTAL AMOUNT OF AWARD (approximation)	**$48,400.00**

* paid directly to you
**estimated – automatically paid directly to the university on your behalf
***transferred to your home department after budget proposals are submitted and approved

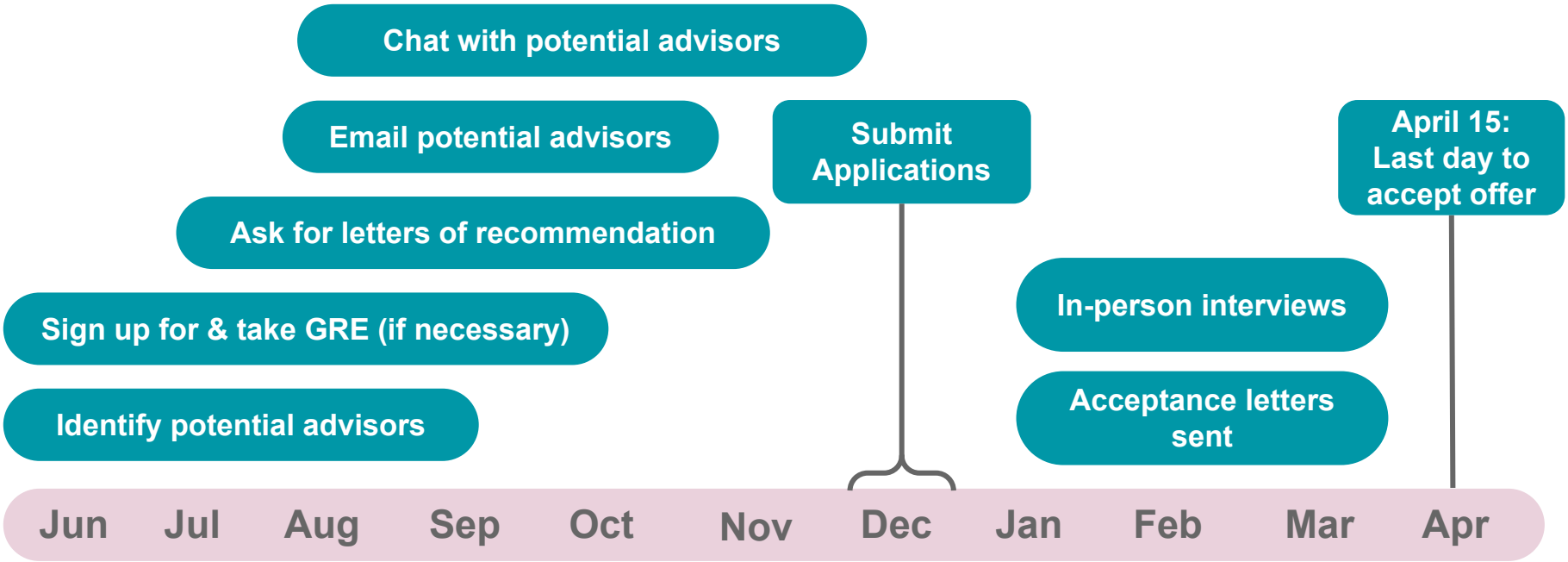
How to apply for fellowships: timeline

- Generally, give yourself at least a month to write an application
- Give letter writers as much time as possible (again, at least a month is good)
- You will need to go through several drafts and should get feedback from multiple people
- Don’t submit at the last minute!

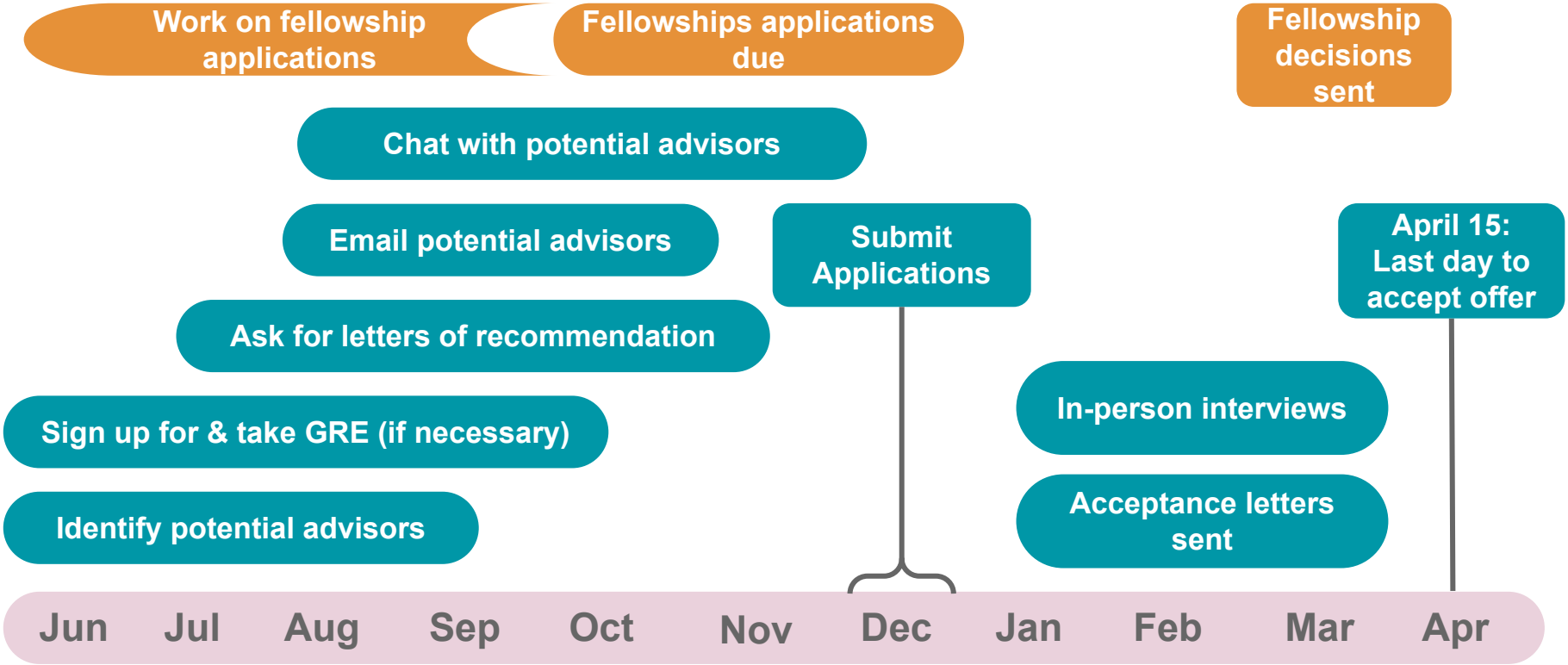


Freepik, Flaticon.com

How to apply for fellowships: timeline



How to apply for fellowships: timeline



How to apply for fellowships: getting help

Advisors	If in grad school, work with your advisor. If not, you can ask a prospective advisor.
Peers	Work with friends. Can be helpful if in same or different field.
Workshops	Some universities or graduate programs have workshops.
Read successful applications	Find someone who's previously gotten the fellowship or look online.
Ask the funder	If you can't find the answer, ask the funding source.

Fellowships

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program:
Many STEM fields, open to U.S. citizens and permanent residents

UC DAVIS
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

UC Davis internal fellowships:
Varying fields, priorities, and eligibility requirements

Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowships:
Many academic fields, prioritizes teaching and diversity, open to U.S. citizens/permanent residents, DACA recipients, asylees/refugees, Indigenous individuals under Jay Treaty

And more!

- UC Davis internal fellowships
  - https://grad.ucdavis.edu/financial-support/internal-fellowships
  - Plant Sciences Departmental GSR: https://www.plantsciences.ucdavis.edu/departmental-graduate-student-research-assistantships-awards
- Lists of fellowships
  - https://grad.ucdavis.edu/financial-support/external-fellowships
  - https://immigrantsrising.org/2020scholarships/

Breakout Session 2 - Questions about Fellowships and Funding

Part 2: Fellowships and grants

- Fellowships and grants: an overview
- Finding and applying for funding opportunities
- **Fellowship focus: National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program**

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP)

- Open to students in many scientific fields
- One of the largest funders of graduate fellowships in Evolution and Ecology

NSF GRFP: Eligibility

Applicant must be:

- Enrolled in graduate program or currently applying
- U.S. citizen or a national/permanent resident

Applicant cannot:

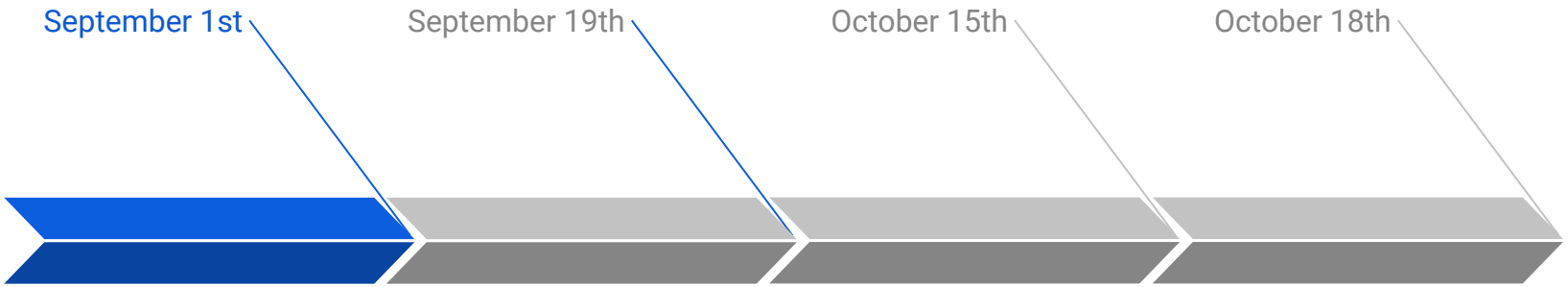
- Have a Master's or professional degree
- Completed more than 1 year of graduate education UNLESS interrupted for 2 years
- Applied previously as a graduate student

PSA: You can only apply ONCE during graduate school, TWICE overall

NSF GRFP: Benefits

- $34,000/year stipend for three years
- $12,000/year towards tuition for three years
- Opportunity to apply for additional grants and professional development opportunities

NSF GRFP: Timeline



Decide whether to apply

Read about the fellowship, brainstorm ideas, talk with advisor or consider reaching out to prospective advisors

Begin application

Research your project, ask for letters of recommendation, draft your essays

Strengthening application

Get feedback from advisor, peers, mentors

Be prepared to write many drafts and make substantive changes

Application due

Only minor changes

Don't wait until the last minute to submit!

NSF GRFP: What you need:

- Application components
  - Research Statement
  - Personal Statement
  - Letters of Recommendation
  - Transcript
  - Education and Work Experience

Deadline 2022: Oct 18th (Life Sciences)

Graduate Research Fellowship Program

Welcome to the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP).

NSF GRFP Competition Results

Award Offers and Honorable Mentions List

Applicant Deadlines

Applications Must Be Received by 5:00 p.m. Local Time of applicant's mailing address

October 18, 2021 (Monday): Life Sciences

October 19, 2021 (Tuesday): Computer and Information Science and Engineering

October 19, 2021 (Tuesday): Materials Research

October 19, 2021 (Tuesday): Psychology

October 19, 2021 (Tuesday): Social Sciences

October 19, 2021 (Tuesday): STEM Education and Learning Research

October 21, 2021 (Thursday): Engineering

October 22, 2021 (Friday): Chemistry

October 22, 2021 (Friday): Geosciences

October 22, 2021 (Friday): Mathematical Sciences

October 22, 2021 (Friday): Physics and Astronomy

Withdrawal Deadline

November 15, 2021 (Monday): Application Withdrawal

Reference Submission Deadline

Reference Letters Must be Submitted by October 29, 2021 (Friday) 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time
Reference Writers: You will be provided a new login to submit a reference letter.

October 29, 2021 (Friday) 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time Submit Reference Letter.

NSF GRFP: Why Apply?

- Experience writing fellowship applications and thinking about your research
- Reviews on your application will help you apply in the future
- You could get the GRFP!

Note: the GRFP funds the person, not the project.

Graduate Research Fellowship Program

Welcome to the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP).

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Award Offers and Honorable Mentions List

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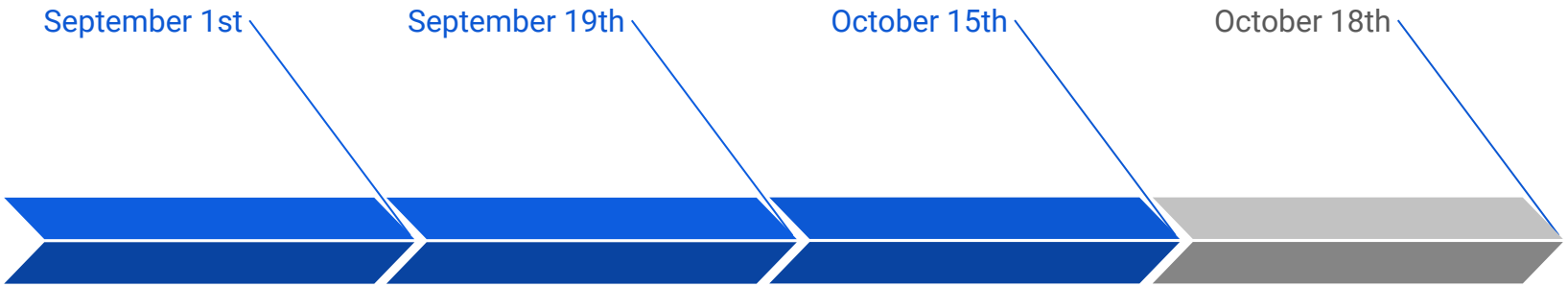

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Strengthening application

Get feedback from advisor, peers, mentors

Be prepared to write many drafts and make substantive changes

Application due

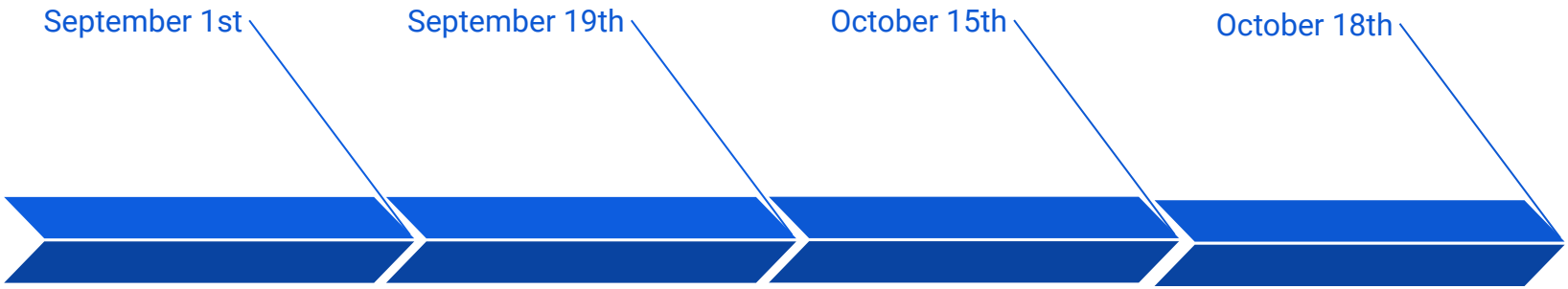
Only minor changes

Don't wait until the last minute to submit!

NSF GRFP: Writing the application

Advisors	If in grad school, work with your advisor. If not, you can ask a prospective advisor. For the GRFP, it is strongly recommended that you work with an advisor and name them in your research proposal.
Peers	Work with friends. Can be helpful if in same or different field.
Workshops	UC Davis Graduate Group in Ecology has a workshop for applicants. https://eebmentormatch.com/ ☆
Read successful applications	https://github.com/ybrandvain/GRFP
Ask the funder	If you can't find the answer, ask the funding source.

NSF GRFP: Timeline



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Read about the fellowship, brainstorm ideas, talk with advisor or consider reaching out to prospective advisors

Begin application

Research your project, ask for letters of recommendation, draft your essays

Strengthening application

Get feedback from advisor, peers, mentors

Be prepared to write many drafts and make substantive changes

Application due

Only minor changes

Don't wait until the last minute to submit!

NSF GRFP: After applying

- Take a deep breath: **you did it!!!**
- NSF announces its decisions in early April
- You will receive reviews on your application:

Summary Comments

I am convinced that the candidate has a bright future and a great grasp of the science approaches. Just needs to think about the proposed research in a broader ecological context.

Summary Comments

Summary Statement: The proposed research lack of creativeness and challenges, and the applicant should try to build a strong intellectual merit via research proposal and future goals in scientific career. Broader impact aspects of the application are fairly strong.

Summary Comments

This is an excellent application and one of the strongest cases for a fellowship that I have encountered. The intellectual merit of the applicant lies in the strong academic and research records along with well-developed plans for a dissertation and future research. Broader impacts are multifaceted but still focus primarily on and row directly from the applicant's research.

Intellectual Merit Criterion

Overall Assessment of Intellectual Merit
Very Good

Explanation to Applicant
Miss Armstrong currently pursue her BS degree on Evolutionary Biology at the Washington State University and expected to be graduate in May, 2019 with a high GPA (3.7). She presented her research once at National Evolution Conference and was listed as a co-author on a manuscript. She won some undergraduate research grants and scholarships provided by the University. The research she proposed is to investigate plasticity as an explanation of invasion success to variable environmental conditions using asexual New Zealand snails as a model, and she received relevant training from Dr. Dybdahl lab. The proposed research was properly designed and feasible, but apparently the proposal is in-line with Dr. Dybdahl on-going projects and lacks of creativeness from the applicant. Thus, intellectual merit of such research is hard to be rated high.

Broader Impacts Criterion

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts
Very Good

Explanation to Applicant
Broader Impacts Comments: Miss Armstrong showed some enthusiasm in teaching as a teaching assistant and has been involved in various college events including lectures for local middle and high schools as well as at local community science center. She also showed strong leadership in the STEM community, and she is the president of Biology club and a mentor for more than 275 incoming students, as well as being a role model for future students and ambassador of WSU. She received three supporting letters from her teachers and advisors, and all these letters provided further support for the applicant's strong leadership in scientific communities and her profound training relevant to the proposed research. The proposed research will provide insight in evolution of asexual organisms, and Miss Armstrong has some plan to expand the broader impacts of the study in undergraduate education and public education.

Summary Comments
Summary Statement: The proposed research lack of creativeness and challenges, and the applicant should try to build a strong intellectual merit via research proposal and future goals in scientific career. Broader impact aspects of the application are fairly strong.

Intellectual Merit Criterion

Overall Assessment of Intellectual Merit
Very Good

Explanation to Applicant
Interesting topic. Plasticity is a fascinating subject and this seems like a good study animal.

Broader Impacts Criterion

Overall Assessment of Broader Impacts
Very Good

Explanation to Applicant
She has contacts with several organizations and seems willing and able to work with STEM students.

Summary Comments
Nice job. Should be funded.

NSF GRFP: After applying

If you don't receive the NSF GRFP this doesn't mean your research ideas aren't interesting and worth pursuing!

- https://telis.blog/2018/04/03/the-price-of-a-grfp-part-1/
- https://massivesci.com/articles/grfp-disparity-nsf/

Workshop Feedback

Your feedback is important to us. Please take a few minutes to complete evaluations for this session.

Nuts & Bolts of Grad School

tinyurl.com/preview21feedback

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Week 1	2	3 **Nuts & Bolts of Grad School**	4	5 **Personal Statement Workshop**	6
Week 2	9	10 **How to Apply & Timeline**	11	12 **Office Hours**	12
Week 3	16	17 **Funding & Grant Writing**	18	19 **Navigating Grad School Identity Panel**	20
Week 4	23	24 **Find a Good Fit**	25	26 **Office Hours**	27
Week 5	30	31 **Is this Right for Me?**	1	2 **Wrap-Up!**	*All sessions will be 5:00-6:30pm PST via Zoom*

Navigating Grad School Identity Panel

Dig Deeper with Us

Chat with your **mentor**

Visit our **website:** eegradpreview.weebly.com

Follow us on **Twitter**: @eegradpreview

Contact us by **email**: eegradpreview@gmail.com

More funding examples:

- Carlos- He was admitted to 2 programs with the same PI, he wanted to be in the one that had a lower stipend but didn't want to lower his income. He negotiated with his PI to receive the higher stipend while being in her top choice program.

- Gilia- Gilia is a 5th year student who had the opportunity to be the main professor for a course. She earns an extra $1000 for teaching this course. Gilia's PI provides research funds for Gilia's sequencing needs.

- Henrietta - Her advisor has limited funds and she teaches 3 quarters and has a research assistant in the summer where she spends 20 hours a week working with her advisor. She has research fellowship money for her dissertation projects.

- Ingrid is a first year student on a first year fellowship, she focuses on classwork and earns $31,000.