2021 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program Application Workshop

September 22, 2020

Introduction

Application Advice from Current GRFP Fellows

Alexander Alvara
Mechanical Engineering PhD
2019 NSF Fellow

Isabel Serrano
Computational Biology PhD
2020 NSF Fellow

Willa Voorhies
Psychology PhD
2020 NSF Fellow

Alvin Wan
Computer Science PhD
2018 NSF Fellow

Reed Yalisove
Material Sciences & Engineering PhD
2020 NSF Fellow

Guidance from Former GRFP Reviewer

Fiona M. Doyle
Donald H. McLaughlin
Professor Emerita of Mineral Engineering
Department of Materials Science & Engineering

Additional questions?
Graduate Student Services: Fellowships
318 Sproul Hall, gradfell@berkeley.edu
Guidance on Statements

From Program Solicitation:

“Both statements must address NSF’s review criteria of Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts (described in detail in Section VI). Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts must be addressed individually under separate headings in both Personal and Research Plan statements to provide reviewers with the information necessary to evaluate the application with respect to both Criteria. Applications in which Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts are not addressed separately under separate headings will be returned without review.”

Review Criteria

Program Solicitation – “Merit Review Principles and Criteria”

Formatting

Program Solicitation – “Application Preparation Instructions”

Eligibility Guidelines

Program Solicitation – “Eligibility Information”

Primary Field Selection

GRFP Program Site > Applicants > Application Components > Choosing Primary Field

Program Solicitation – “Eligibility Information: Field of Study, Degree Programs, and Proposed Research”

Detailed Fellowship Rules

Administrative Guide

Program Solicitation – “Additional Solicitation Specific Review Criteria” (emphasis added):

“Applicants are reviewed on their demonstrated potential to advance knowledge and to make significant research achievements and contributions to their fields throughout their careers. Reviewers are asked to assess applications using a holistic, comprehensive approach, giving balanced consideration to all components of the application, including the educational and research record, leadership, outreach, service activities, and future plans, as well as individual competencies, experiences, and other attributes. The aim is to recruit and retain a diverse cohort of early-career individuals with high potential for future achievements, contributions, and broader impacts in STEM and STEM education.” (Page 11)