FINANCING YOUR GRADUATE EDUCATION
Ways of Financing Graduate School

- Loans/Grants
- Assistantships
- Co-Op
- Work-Study
- Fellowships/Traineeships
- Internships; part-time Jobs

NC State University
Research Assistantships
(1/2 Time)

- Stipend: $10,000 - $20,000 for 12 mos.
- Tuition covered
- Health Insurance covered
- Work obligation (assisting professor with research)
- Often furthers one’s dissertation research
Teaching Assistantships (1/2 Time)

- Stipend: $8,000 - $15,000 for 9 mos.
- Graders, lab instructors, discussion/recitation section leaders, classroom teachers
- Tuition covered
- Health Insurance covered
- Provides teaching experience but usually does not further one’s research
- Useful credential for academic positions
What is a Fellowship?

Fellowships/traineeships, grants and scholarships are outright awards made to graduate students with **no service obligation**. They usually provide a monthly stipend for living expenses, tuition and required fees.
General Characteristics of Fellowships

- Full-Time Enrollment
- 1-6 Year Duration
- No Outside Employment
- Summer Internship Requirement
- Citizenship Requirement
- Research-Specific/Discipline-Specific
- Merit-Based
Institutionally Awarded Fellowships

Fellowships offered through departments and/or college

Contact Director of Graduate Programs

University-Wide Fellowships

- Diversity Enhancement Grants
- GAANN, IGERT, NIH
Nationally Competitive Fellowships

Awarded directly from granting agencies/foundations to graduate students

Graduate students may choose to use their fellowships at any university to which they have been admitted.

- National Science Foundation
- Ford Foundation
- Jacob K. Javits
- Environmental Protection Agency
- NASA
Searching for Nationally Competitive Fellowships

- “Peterson’s Grants for Graduate and Postdoctoral Study”
- Web Resources: Graduate School “Financing Graduate Education Web Site”
  - Databases
  - Agency/Foundation Web Links
Fellowships

Overview of Types of Funding (pdf)
NC State Fellowships and Traineeships
Nationally Competitive Fellowship Programs & Other Funding
Nationally Competitive Fellowship Programs and Other Funding Opportunities

Nationally competitive fellowships are awarded directly to individual students by federal or state agencies, and/or private foundations. With some exceptions, this type of Fellowship is typically tenable at any university to which a student has been admitted or is currently enrolled.

For additional information on the funding opportunities listed below in the "Graduate School Funding Opportunities Database," please contact Dr. David Shafer, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, at 919.515.7052 or via email at david_shafer@ncsu.edu. For additional information or applications for awards found in "FastWEB," the "Community of Science Funding Opportunities Database," or "GrantsNet," you should contact the appropriate granting agency or foundation directly.

GRADUATE SCHOOL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES DATABASE

Listings by date for:
- Graduate Fellowships, Scholarships, and Awards
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship Opportunities
- Graduate Internships

Keyword Searches:
- Graduate Fellowships, Scholarships, and Awards
- Post-Doctoral Fellowship Opportunities
- Graduate Internships

LINKS TO OTHER FUNDING INFORMATION SOURCES
- FastWEB Financial Aid Search through the Web
- Community of Science Funding Opportunities Database
- "GrantsNet" -- Database for Funding Opportunities in the Biological Sciences
- ScienceWise.com
- Scholarship Resource Network Express
Selection Criteria

- Undergraduate and Graduate Grade Point Average
- GRE Scores
- Research Experience
- Conference Presentations
- Strong Letters of Reference
- Statement of Purpose
Tips on Applying

- Read the application package carefully
- Completed applications must be neat in appearance
- Contact the Program Officer for questions
- Make a checklist and set a timeline
- Speak to successful applicants
- Keep copies of everything
- Apply by the deadline!
  - Generally Range from October to March
More Information on Funding and Graduate School

- www.ncsu.edu/grad/financial-support/fellows.html
- Contact Your Department for Questions
- Contact Me for Questions:

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