



**Lewis-Burke**  
  
**Associates LLC**

**FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND  
FELLOWSHIPS THAT PROVIDE  
SUPPORT FOR UNIVERSITY-BASED  
POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHERS**

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## Overview

This report contains a list of federal government fellowship programs that provide support for postdoctoral researchers working at universities or other non-government institutions. While not included in this document, many government agencies also provide funding for postdoctoral researchers to work at their own internal laboratories or centers.

The federal government programs listed below are organized by the agency that runs the program. Programs are additionally divided into those that provide money for institutions to provide training to postdoctoral researchers and those that provide money directly to individual postdoctoral fellows. For each opportunity, there is provided a program summary, eligibility requirements, size of the program, approximate size and type of award, citizenship requirements, annual due dates, and other special factors. The program websites are provided as a source for more detailed information.

# Department of Education

The Department of Education offers a number of discretionary grants in the areas of the enhancement of education policy, educational environments, and educator capabilities. Most research-related grants are delivered through the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

## *Institution Awards*

### **Postdoctoral Research Training Program in the Education Sciences**

- **Overview:** This program is funded through IES and provides support for institutions to set up research training programs for postdoctoral fellows to prepare researchers to conduct “rigorous and relevant education research” in support of IES research goals and topics. The grants may focus on one research topic and one research goal or solely on training in methodological research. The research topics and goals correspond to the topics and goals of other National Center for Education Research (NCER) grants. For fiscal year (FY) 2013, IES identified ten research topics: Cognition and Student Learning; Early Learning Programs and Policies; Education Technology; Effective Teachers and Effective Teaching; English Learners; Improving Education Systems: Policies, Organization, Management, and Leadership; Mathematics and Science Education; Postsecondary and Adult Education; Reading and Writing; or Social and Behavioral Context for Academic Learning. The five research goals for IES are: Exploration; Development and Innovation; Efficacy and Replication; Effectiveness; or Measurement.
- **Eligibility:** Institutions must grant doctoral degrees in education to be eligible and the principal investigator and all faculty mentors must be principal investigators or co-principal investigators on an active IES research grant. Fellows must have completed a doctoral degree prior to beginning the fellowship.
- **Citizenship:** Fellows must be citizens or permanent residents of the U.S.
- **Award/Program Size:** Maximum total award sizes are \$687,000 over up to five years to support eight fellow years (e.g. four fellows for two years each). This funding supports for each fellow per year up to three years a fellowship stipend of \$52,500; up to \$12,000 in fringe benefits; and \$12,000 in other fellow costs. Additionally, the awards provide \$15,000 per training program per year to support program expenses;
- **Due Date:** Letters of intent for the postdoctoral program are generally due in July and the complete application is due in September.

Source: [http://ies.ed.gov/funding/ncer\\_rfas/postdoc\\_training.asp?rfa=part0](http://ies.ed.gov/funding/ncer_rfas/postdoc_training.asp?rfa=part0), accessed September 28, 2012.

## Department of Energy

The Department of Energy (DOE) funds research that is relevant to its mission of advancing the national, economic, and energy security of the U.S. DOE supports research in a broad range of basic and applied sciences. It is the principal federal funding agency of research programs in high-energy physics, nuclear physics, and fusion energy sciences. It also manages fundamental research programs in basic energy sciences, biological and environmental sciences, and computational science and is the federal government's largest single provider of funds for materials and chemical sciences. Other research areas include climate change, geophysics, genomics, life sciences, nanotechnology, fossil energy, and nuclear medicine.

DOE offers numerous postdoctoral fellowships at DOE facilities and labs across the country. The Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) is DOE's clearinghouse for such opportunities. A searchable database of ORISE sponsored opportunities can be found at: <http://orise.orau.gov/science-education/internships-scholarships-fellowships/postdocs.aspx>. Additionally, the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) offers a postdoctoral research program that can be used by postdoctoral researchers based at academic institutions, details on this program are below.

### *Individual Awards*

#### **Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Postdoctoral Research Awards**

- Overview: EERE's Postdoctoral Research Award seeks to develop scientific leaders in energy efficiency and renewable energy. EERE Postdoctoral Research Awards are for two years and take place at either host academic institutions or DOE national laboratories.
- Eligibility: Applicants must have a Ph.D. for no more than five years from the application deadline or be expected to complete all the doctoral degree requirements by September 30 of the application year. Additionally applicants should receive support to submit an application from a research mentor who holds a principal investigator position at a research facility.
- Citizenship: Fellows must be citizens or permanent residents of the US by September 30 of the application year.
- Award/Program Size: Participants will receive a yearly stipend of \$65,000. EERE Postdoctoral Research Awards provide an annual stipend, allowances for health insurance and research-related expenses, and limited reimbursement for relocation expenses
- Due Date: The most recent deadline for the EERE Postdoctoral Research Awards was May 1, 2012. Future competitions have not yet been announced.

Source: <http://www1.eere.energy.gov/education/postdoctoral/index.html>.

## **Fusion Energy Postdoctoral Research Program**

- Overview: DOE's Fusion Energy Postdoctoral Research Program provides recent doctoral degree recipients the opportunity to conduct research in fusion energy research and development programs. Participants acquire training in areas of fusion energy for one year.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be recent (within three years of desired start date) doctoral degree recipients or those expected to complete all doctoral degree requirements prior to desired start date; the desired start date must be before December 31 of the application year. Eligible research sites are DOE national laboratories and other labs supported by the Fusion Energy program at DOE.
- Citizenship: Applicants must be citizens or permanent residents of the US.
- Award/Program Size: The Fusion Energy Postdoctoral program provides a \$61,200 annual stipend; limited reimbursement for health and medical insurance costs; inbound travel and moving expenses.
- Due Date: No awards were made in 2012, but the program expects to make new awards in 2013 and/or 2014. Future due dates have not been announced.

Source: <http://see.ornl.gov/ProgramDescription.aspx?Program=10093>.

## **Department of Health and Human Services**

### **National Institutes of Health**

The primary function of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is to support biomedical and health-related research. Included in this mission is research on the behavioral and social impacts of individuals and society as related to public health. Please refer to each program's corresponding link to see which of NIH's 27 Institutes and Centers (ICs), as well as which agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), are collaborating on each program and to determine the areas of postdoctoral study that are relevant.

#### *Institution Awards*

### **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Institutional Research Training Grants (Parent T32)**

- Overview: This program serves as eligible institutions' primary means of supporting predoctoral and postdoctoral research training for individuals interested in pursuing research careers in biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research. Training activities can be in "basic biomedical or clinical sciences, in behavioral or social sciences, in health services research, or in any other discipline relevant to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) mission. The training program should be of sufficient depth to enable selected trainees,

upon completion of the program, to have a thorough exposure to the principles underlying the conduct of research.”

- Eligibility: Only domestic, private or public institutions may apply for grants to support NRSA institutional research training programs. The applicant institution must have “a strong and high quality research program” in the area(s) proposed for research training and must have “the requisite staff and facilities on site” to conduct the proposed research training program. The training principal investigator (PI) should be an established basic, behavioral, and/or clinical researcher.
- Citizenship: The individuals to be trained must be citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: Awards may be made for periods up to five years and are renewable. “Application budgets are not limited, but need to reflect actual needs of the proposed training program...NIH will contribute to the combined cost of tuition and fees at the rate in place at the time of award.” Facilities & Administrative Costs “are reimbursed at eight percent of modified total direct costs.”
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: January 25, May 25, and September 25.

Source: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-184.html>, accessed August 23, 2012.

### **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Short-Term Institutional Research Training Grants (Parent T35)**

- Overview: The objective of this program is “to develop or enhance research training opportunities for predoctoral and postdoctoral level individuals interested in careers in biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research. Many of the National Institutes of Health Institutes and Centers (ICs) use this grant mechanism exclusively to support intensive, short-term research training experiences for students in health professional schools during the summer.” The program may also be used to support “other types of predoctoral and postdoctoral training in focused, often emerging scientific areas relevant to the mission of the funding IC.”
- Eligibility: Only domestic, non-profit, private or public institutions may apply for grants to support NRSA institutional research training programs. The applicant institution must have “a strong and high quality research program” in the area(s) proposed for research training and must have “the requisite faculty and facilities on site” to conduct the proposed research training program. The training principal investigator (PI) should be an established basic, behavioral, and/or clinical researcher.
- Citizenship: The individuals to be trained must be citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: “Awards for T35 Short-Term institutional NRSA research training grants may be for project periods up to five years in duration and are renewable. Trainees selected for short-term training are required to pursue research training for 2-3 months on a full-time basis...Application budgets are not limited, but need to reflect

actual needs of the proposed project.” Facilities & Administrative Costs “are reimbursed at eight percent of modified total direct costs.”

- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: January 25, May 25, and September 25.

Source: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-185.html>, accessed August 23, 2012.

### **Education Project Grants (R25) (Example: National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) Education Program Grants)**

- Overview: This program supports “applicant organizations that propose to create educational opportunities for undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows in areas of biomedical or behavioral research of particular interest to the NIDDK, while fostering the career development of these students and fellows. The structure of the educational opportunity can include an intensive summer research program, a curriculum-based program, or a combination of both experiences. The NIDDK is especially interested in attracting students and postdoctoral fellows from scientific disciplines underrepresented in disease-oriented biomedical research, such as engineering, informatics, computer science, and computational sciences, to encourage them to apply their expertise to research” relevant to health.
- Eligibility: Only domestic, non-profit, private or public institutions may apply. Institutions with existing institutional training grants (e.g. T32) or “other federally funded training programs may apply for a research education grant provided that the proposed educational experiences are distinct from those training programs already receiving National Institutes of Health (NIH) support. In many cases, it is anticipated that the proposed research education program will complement ongoing research training occurring at the applicant institution.”
- Citizenship: “Unless strongly justified on the basis of exceptional relevance to NIH, research education programs should be used primarily for the education of U.S. citizens.”
- Award/Program Size: “Budgets for direct costs of up to \$100,000 per year and a project duration of up to five years may be requested for a maximum of \$500,000 direct costs over a five-year project period.” Facilities & Administrative Costs “are reimbursed at eight percent of modified total direct costs.”
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: January 25, May 25, and September 25.

Source: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-047.html>, accessed August 23, 2012.

## *Individual Awards*

### **Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards (NRSA) for Individual Postdoctoral Fellows (Parent F32)**

- Overview: The purpose of this individual postdoctoral research training fellowship is to provide support to “promising postdoctoral applicants with the potential to become productive and successful independent investigators” in “scientific health-related research fields relevant to the missions of participating National Institutes of Health (NIH) Institutes and Centers.”
- Eligibility: The individual must have received a clinical or research doctorate from an accredited domestic or foreign institution.
- Citizenship: By the time of award, applicants must be citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: “Individuals may receive up to three years of aggregate NRSA support at the postdoctoral level, including any combination of support from institutional training grants (e.g. T32) and an individual fellowship award...Award budgets are composed of stipends, tuition and fees, and institutional allowance.” NIH does not separately reimburse Facilitates & Administrative Costs for fellowships.
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: April 8, August 8, and December 8.
- Special Attention: Before submitting a fellowship application, the applicant must identify a sponsor who will “supervise the training and research experience,” as well as a sponsoring institution. The sponsoring institution must have appropriate “staff and facilities available on site to provide a suitable environment for performing high-quality research training” and be “demonstrably committed to research training in the particular program proposed by the applicant...”

Source: <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-113.html>, accessed August 23, 2012.

### **NIH Pathway to Independence Award (Parent K99/R00)**

- Overview: The purpose of the K99/R00 award is to “increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented National Institutes of Health-supported independent investigators. The program is designed to facilitate a timely transition from a mentored postdoctoral research position to a stable independent research position” at an earlier career stage than the current average.
- Eligibility: Candidates must have a clinical or research doctorate, “have no more than five years of postdoctoral research training at the time of application (resubmissions must also comply with this requirement),” and have not already obtained a full-time tenure track assistant professor position (or equivalent).
- Citizenship: By the time of award, applicants must be citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.

- Award/Program Size: “The K99/R00 award will provide up to five years of support consisting of two phases. The initial mentored phase will provide support for up to two years” for the candidate to “obtain additional training, complete research, publish results, and bridge to an independent research position.” For the K99 phase, the total cost per year “generally should not exceed \$90,000,” and Facilities & Administrative Costs “are reimbursed at eight percent of modified total direct costs.” Following the mentored phase, the individual may request up to three years of support to conduct independent research as a tenure-track full-time assistant professor at an extramural sponsoring institution or organization. For the R00 phase, the total cost may not exceed \$249,000 per year, and “indirect costs will be reimbursed at the extramural sponsoring institution’s indirect cost rate.”
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: February 12, June 12, and October 12.

Source: <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-197.html>, accessed August 23, 2012.

### **Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (Parent K01)**

- Overview: The objective of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01) is to “provide salary and research support for a sustained period of “protected time” (three to five years) for intensive research career development under the guidance of an experienced mentor, or sponsor, in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences leading to research independence.”
- Eligibility: “Candidates for this award must have a research or health-professional doctoral degree.”
- Citizenship: By the time of award, applicants must be citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: “The total project period may not exceed five years.” Participating NIH Institutes and Centers will provide salary and other program-related expenses including “tuition and fees related to career development, research expenses, travel to research meetings or training, and statistical services.” Facilities & Administrative Costs “are reimbursed at eight percent of modified total direct costs.”
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: February 12, June 12, and October 12.

Source: <http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-11-190.html>, accessed August 23, 2012.

## **Career Transition Awards (K22) (Example: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) Career Transition Award)**

- Overview: The objective of the NIAID Career Transition Award is to “support postdoctoral fellows transitioning to positions of assistant professor or equivalent,” and help them to “initiate a successful biomedical career as an independent research scientist.”
- Eligibility: Candidates for this award must have a terminal research or clinical doctoral degree and no more than five years of related postdoctoral research experience at the time of the initial application or resubmission. “In order to activate the K22 award, the candidate will need to secure a tenure-track full-time assistant professor position within a year of the receipt of the approval letter.”
- Citizenship: By the time of award, applicants must be citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the U.S.
- Award/Program Size: “The total project period may not exceed two years...In the first year of the K22 award, NIAID will contribute up to \$150,000 (total direct cost), and in the second year up to \$100,000 (total direct cost) toward the research development costs of the award recipient.” The National Institutes of Health will contribute no more than \$50,000 per year toward the salary of the career award recipient. Facilities & Administrative Costs “are reimbursed at eight percent of modified total direct costs.”
- Due Date: Applications are due in three annual cycles: February 12, June 12, and October 12.

Source: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-12-156.html>, accessed August 23, 2012.

## **Agency for Healthcare Quality and Research**

The mission of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is to improve health care, which includes improving the quality, safety, efficiency and effectiveness of care.<sup>1</sup> AHRQ supports outcomes-focused health services research, such as research on the factors that impact the care a patient receives. AHRQ divides its research portfolio into six priority areas which include: health information technology; patient-centered health research; patient safety; prevention and care management; value; and crosscutting activities on health cost, quality, and outcomes.<sup>2</sup>

AHRQ also provides fellowship and training support to bolster the pipeline of health services researchers through opportunities targeted at both predoctoral and postdoctoral researchers. The Office of Extramural Research, Education, and Priority Populations (OEREP) at AHRQ directs the scientific review process, manages the process for funding decisions, and directs research training and career development programs.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ahrq.gov/about/highlt11.htm#mission>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ahrq.gov/about/cj2013/cj2013.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ahrq.gov/about/oerep/oerepmiss.htm>

## *Institution Awards*

### **Institutional Training Awards (T32)**

Keeping with the emphasis on ensuring a strong pipeline of health services researchers; and the focus of the Agency on improving care; AHRQ has previously provided funding for Institutional Training Awards through the National Research Service Award Grant Program (NRSA) (See NIH Section on Ruth. L Kirschstein NRSA). These awards support predoctoral and postdoctoral research training at institutions through stipends and partial tuition coverage for eligible researchers. **There are currently no open solicitations at AHRQ for this award.**

Sources: <http://grants.nih.gov/training/nrsa.htm>, <http://www.ahrq.gov/fund/training/t32.htm>,

## *Individual Awards*

### **Mentored Research Scientist Development Awards (K01)**

- Overview: Keeping with the emphasis on ensuring a strong pipeline of health services researchers; AHRQ provides funding to help individuals with a doctoral degree develop the experience needed to meet the health services research demand. According to AHRQ “the primary purpose of the AHRQ Mentored Research Scientist Research Career Development Awards (K01) program is to prepare qualified individuals for careers that have a significant impact on the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of health care for all Americans.
- Eligibility: Individuals with a research doctoral degree associated with a university or hospital may apply. The individual must provide a name of a primary sponsor or mentor on the application. AHRQ encourages underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, individuals with disabilities and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds to apply. Individuals must have a doctoral degree and be willing to commit to a minimum of 9 months. If an individual has simultaneously submitted or has an application pending peer review for any other PHS career award, or a research project grant (R01);” or if the individual is a PD/PI on another AHRQ or NIH career development award then the individual is not eligible.<sup>4</sup>
- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Total award size and number of awards varies depending on the number of applications and merit of applications that AHRQ receives.
- Due Date: Application receipt dates are February 12, June 12, and October 12, annually.

Source: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-HS-12-006.html>, <http://www.ahrq.gov/fund/training/rsrchtng.htm>, accessed September 4, 2012.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-09-087.html#PartI>

## **Health Resources and Services Administration**

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is the primary federal agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated or medically vulnerable. The Bureau of Health Professions within HRSA increases access to health care by developing, distributing and retaining a diverse, culturally competent health workforce.

### *Institution Awards*

#### **Ruth K. Kirchstein National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grant**

- Overview: This program promotes the development of new or enhancement of existing postdoctoral research training programs related to primary care research.
- Eligibility: Eligible applicants are public or non-profit private hospitals; schools or approved residency or educational programs for allopathic or osteopathic medicine, dentistry, or physician assistants; or other public or private non-profit entities.
- Award/Program Size: The estimated total amount for the current competition is \$7.5 million with average award size of \$400,000. There is no cost sharing requirement.
- Due Date: The most recent application deadline was July 1, 2011. The upcoming dates have not yet been announced.

Source:

<https://grants.hrsa.gov/webExternal/FundingOppDetails.asp?FundingCycleId=38735F4A-6FA7-4A3D-878C-37D426A9A9C0&ViewMode=EU&GoBack=&PrintMode=&OnlineAvailabilityFlag=&pageNumber=&version=&NC=&Popup=>, accessed August 31, 2012.

## **National Science Foundation**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds basic research in all areas of science and engineering. This includes research on social, behavioral, and economic sciences as well as science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.

### *Institution Awards*

#### **Intelligence Community (IC) Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Program**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers to collaborate with a university or research lab-based principal investigator and an intelligence community adviser on a research topic of interest to the intelligence community. For each solicitation year, proposals will be sought on specific research topics. Awards are made to principal

investigators rather than directly to the post-doctoral fellow. Fellowships provide funding for two years of research support with an optional third year.

- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with a US college, university, or select government research laboratory. Applicants must be current graduate students who will complete their doctoral degree by the start of the fellowship or recent graduates who have received a doctoral degree within five years of the award start date.
- Program Size: 12 fellows were funded in 2011.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens.
- Due Dates: Research topics are generally released in December with proposals due in January annually. Exact deadlines for the 2013 competition have not been announced.

Source: <http://www.icpostdoc.org/index.cfm>, accessed August 28, 2012.

#### *Individual Awards*

#### **Atmospheric and Geospace Sciences Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (AGS-PRF)**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers working in areas of atmospheric and geospace sciences. Fellowships provide full-time funding for 2 years (24 months) of research.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with a host institution. Applicants must be current graduate students or have received a doctoral degree within three years of the award start date.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards total \$86,000 per year for two years. Funding includes a \$4,833 monthly stipend, \$19,000 for research costs, and \$9,000 for benefits such as health insurance. NSF expects to make 10 awards each year.
- Due Dates: Proposals are due February 2, 2013.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=12779](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12779), accessed August 28, 2012.

#### **NSF Astronomy and Astrophysics Postdoctoral Fellowships (AAPF)**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers working in areas of astronomy and astrophysics. Fellowships provide funding for up to three years of support. Fellows must include education activities as part of their fellowships (between 10 to 25 percent of their time).
- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with a host institution; these include US colleges and universities, NSF-funded centers and facilities, research and education-oriented non-profit organizations and international observatories operated by US organizations. Applicants must be current graduate students who will earn a doctoral degree by October 1 of the award year or have earned a doctoral degree within five years of the application deadline.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

- Award/Program Size: Awards total \$89,000 per year for three years. Funding includes a \$5,167 monthly stipend, \$27,000 for research and education costs, as well as benefits such as health insurance. NSF expects to make 8 to 9 awards each year.
- Due Dates: Proposals are due the second Wednesday in October annually.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5291](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5291), accessed August 28, 2012.

### **EAR Postdoctoral Fellowships (EAR-PF)**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers working in areas of earth science. Fellowships provide funding for up to two years of support. Fellows must include education activities as part of their fellowships (between 10 to 25 percent of their time).
- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with an institution or organization; however there are a wide range of organizations that qualify, including colleges and universities, national laboratories, research institutes, museums, and certain non-profit groups. International organizations are allowed. Applicants must be current graduate students or have received a doctoral degree within three years of the award start date.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards total \$85,000 per year for two years. Funding includes a \$4,833 monthly stipend, \$3,000 for host institution expenses, \$15,000 for research and education costs, and \$9,000 for benefits such as health insurance. NSF expects to make ten awards each year.
- Due Dates: Proposals were due annually in July with the most recent deadline July 2, 2012. Future deadlines have not yet been announced.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=503144](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503144), accessed August 28, 2012.

### **Fellowships for Transformative Computational Science using CyberInfrastructure (CI TraCS)**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers working in areas of computational science. The program is supported by the Office of CyberInfrastructure and covers all areas of science and engineering. Fellowships can be used both for those with computational doctoral training to gain more science or engineering domain expertise and those with expertise in a specific domain to gain more computational training. Fellowships provide funding for three years of support. Fellows must include education activities as part of their fellowships (between 10 to 25 percent of their time).
- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with an institution or organization, including colleges and universities, national laboratories, research institutes, and certain for-profit groups. Applicants must be current graduate students who will receive a doctoral degree by the time of the award or have already received a doctoral degree within two years of January 1 of the award year.

- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards total \$240,000 over three years. Funding includes a yearly stipend that grows from \$60,000 in the first year of the fellowship to \$70,000 in the third year, \$5,000 per year for host institution expenses and benefits such as health insurance, and \$10,000 per year for research costs. Awardees can apply for supplemental funding of approximately \$50,000 as a research starter package for beginning a tenure track faculty position after their fellowship.
- Due Dates: Proposals were due January 13, 2012. Future deadlines have not yet been announced.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=503467](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503467), accessed August 29, 2012.

### **Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability (SEES) Fellows**

- Overview: The SEES Fellows program seeks to address near term sustainability workforce needs by reducing institutional barriers to interdisciplinary research relating to sustainability and giving early career researchers an opportunity to gain expertise in a discipline different from their own. Proposals should include a research idea that is interdisciplinary and will allow the researcher to gain expertise in a new discipline. In addition, fellows must develop a research partnership that will enhance the impact or scope of the proposed research idea; these could include partnerships with other NSF projects like the Sustainability Research Networks ([http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=503645](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503645)) or Research Coordination Networks ([http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=11691](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=11691)), industry, federal laboratories, etc. Additionally, fellows will be required to have two mentors – one from the host institution (the institution administering the award) to provide guidance on the proposed research and one to provide guidance on the research partnership that must be established (the latter may or may not be from the host institution, but must be from a different discipline).
- Eligibility: Fellows may include researchers from two- and four-year colleges and universities, other non-profit organizations such as research laboratories and museums, as well as individuals affiliated with industry or state, local or federal government agencies. Fellows must either be current graduate students who will earn a doctoral degree by the time of the award or have already earned a doctoral degree and not have worked in a position requiring that degree for more than 36 months at the time of the proposal deadline.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: The total amount of stipend and benefit support per fellow per year may not exceed \$88,000, although additional funding of \$20,000 per year may be provided for travel, materials, and similar expenses, and \$10,000 per year may be provided for expenses related to international partnerships. NSF expects to make 15 to 20 awards each year.
- Due Dates: Proposals are due November 26, 2012.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=504673](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504673), accessed August 29, 2012.

### **Ocean Sciences Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (OCE-PRF)**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers working in areas of ocean sciences for the purposes of broadening participation of underrepresented groups. Fellowships provide funding for up to two years of research support. Fellows must demonstrate how their fellowship will broaden participation of underrepresented groups in ocean sciences.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with an institution or organization; however there are a wide range of organizations that qualify, including colleges and universities, national laboratories, research institutes, museums, and certain non-profit groups. International organizations are allowed. Applicants must be current graduate students or have received a doctoral degree within three years of the award start date.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards total \$85,000 per year for two years. Funding includes a \$5,000 monthly stipend, \$25,000 for research and broadening participation activity costs, as well as benefits such as health insurance. NSF expects to make ten awards each year.
- Due Dates: Proposals were due January 13, 2012. Future deadlines have not been announced.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=503668](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503668), accessed August 28, 2012.

### **Postdoctoral Fellowships in Polar Regions Research**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers studying the Arctic or Antarctic. Fellowships provide funding for up to three years of research support.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with a US institution or organization; qualifying organizations include colleges and universities, national laboratories, research institutes, museums, and certain non-profit groups. Applicants must be current graduate students who will complete their doctoral degree within one year after the application deadline or recent graduates who have received a doctoral degree within four years of the award deadline. Applicants may not have already received a federal research grant.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards total \$75,000 per year for one or two years. A third year of funding is provided in some cases. Funding includes a \$4,167 monthly stipend, \$11,000 for research costs, \$5,000 for host institution costs, and \$9,000 for benefits such as health insurance. Additional funding is available for field research support. Applicants may also apply for travel grants to meet prospective sponsors prior to proposal submission. NSF expects to make five fellowships and 10 to 15 travel grants each year.

- Due Dates: Proposals were last due October 18, 2011. Future deadlines have not been announced.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5650](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5650), accessed August 28, 2012.

### **Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in Biology (PRFB)**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers working in particular areas of biology supported by the Biological Sciences Directorate (research related to human and animal diseases are usually not appropriate). For the current competition, four types of programs will be supported: “Broadening Participation in Biology; Intersections of Biology and Mathematical and Physical Sciences and Engineering; National Plant Genome Initiative Postdoctoral Research Fellowships; and International Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in Biology.” Broadening Participation and Plant Genome fellowships provide funding for up to three years of research support, while the Intersections and International fellowships provide funding for two years. Both Broadening Participation and Intersections fellowships may also include one year of additional support for undergraduate teaching activities.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with an institution or organization; however there are a wide range of organizations that qualify, including colleges and universities, national laboratories, research institutes, museums, and certain for-profit groups. International organizations are allowed. Applicants must be current graduate students or have received a doctoral degree within one year of the proposal deadline. Applicants may not have received more than \$20,000 in federal funding as a principal investigator or co-principal investigator (not including graduate fellowships). For the Broadening Participation, Intersections, and International fellowships, fellows must also work with a sponsoring scientist different from their current position.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards total \$69,000 per year. Funding includes a \$4,500 monthly stipend, \$15,000 for research expenses and benefits such as health insurance. NSF expects to make ten awards each year.
- Due Dates: Proposals are due October 30, 2012 and October 8, 2013.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=503622](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503622), accessed August 29, 2012.

### **SBE Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (SPRF)**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers working in social, behavioral, and social sciences. For the current competition, two tracks are supported: Broadening Participation (SPRF-BP) and Interdisciplinary Research in Behavioral and Social Sciences (SPRF-IBSS). Fellowships provide two years of full time research support.

- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with a US-based institution or organization, including colleges and universities, museums, national labs, and non-profit organizations associated with education or research. Applicants must be current graduate students who will receive a doctoral degree within 10 months of the proposal deadline or have already received a doctoral degree within two years of the proposal deadline.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards include a \$3,750 monthly stipend, \$10,000 per year for research and travel expenses, and benefits such as health insurance at institutional rates. An additional \$10,000 may be requested for international travel expenses. NSF expects to make up to 15 fellowships per year.
- Due Dates: Proposals are due October 29, 2012 and the last Monday in October annually.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=504810](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504810), accessed August 29, 2012.

### **Mathematical Sciences Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (MSPRF)**

- Overview: This program provides funding to postdoctoral researchers working in areas of mathematical and statistical sciences. There are two types of fellowships: Research Fellowships provide full-time funding for 2 academic years and 2 summers. Research Instructorships provides a mix of full-time and part-time support for 3 academic years and full-time support for 2 summers.
- Eligibility: Applicants must be affiliated with an institution or organization; however there are a wide range of organizations that qualify, including colleges and universities, national laboratories, research institutes, museums, and certain non-profit groups. International organizations are allowed. Applicants must have received a doctoral degree within two years of January 1 of the year the fellowship is awarded and may not have already received a federal research grant.
- Citizenship: Recipients must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: Awards total \$150,000 over two to three years. \$20,000 in additional funding is available for fellows at international host organizations. Funding includes a \$5,000 monthly stipend (for full-time support), \$12,000 for research costs, and \$9,000 for benefits such as health insurance (offered through the host organization). NSF expects to make 30-33 awards each year for total annual funding of approximately \$5 million.
- Due Dates: Proposals are due October 17 in 2012 and the third Wednesday in October, annually thereafter.

Source: [http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=5301](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5301), accessed August 17, 2012.

## U.S. Department of Agriculture

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) primary mission is to regulate and implement public policy for the nation's food, agriculture, and natural resources. However, there are offices within USDA which support extramural research opportunities. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is the primary extramural research and grant making agency of the USDA. Through the grants offered by NIFA, the USDA is able to conduct research critical to farmers, consumers, and communities. (In 2008, NIFA was created as a replacement for the organization formerly known as the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service.)

### *Institution Awards*

#### **NIFA National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship (NNF) Grants Program**

- Overview: This grant program supports training students for masters and doctoral degrees in food, agricultural and natural resource sciences and special International Study or Thesis/Dissertation Research Travel Allowances (IRTA) for eligible recipients. **This program has also supported postdoctoral training in the past, but not during the FY 2012 award cycle.** Awards are specifically intended to support traineeship programs that engage outstanding students to pursue and complete their degrees in USDA mission areas.
- Due Date: The most recent application deadline was August 15, 2011. The next cycle for the fellowship has not yet been announced.

Source: <http://www.nifa.usda.gov/fo/graduateandpostgraduatefellowshipsserd.cfm>, accessed August 29, 2012.

### *Individual Awards*

#### **NIFA Fellowships Grant Program**

- Overview: This grant program supports efforts to develop the next generation of leaders who will be actively engaged in agriculture, forestry, and food related research, education, and extension careers. Projects must align with one of the five Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Challenge Areas: Agricultural Science for Climate Variability and Change; Childhood Obesity Prevention; Food Safety; Food Security; and Sustainable Bioenergy or one of the six AFRI Foundational areas: Plant health and production and plant products; Animal health and production and animal products; Food safety, nutrition, and health; Renewable energy, natural resources, and environment; Agriculture systems and technology; and Agriculture economics and rural communities.
- Eligibility: For the FY 2012 competition, applicants must be pursuing a doctorate degree and have successfully completed their preliminary, qualifying, or general exams (oral and/or written, as per institutional requirements) prior to the application deadline; or be seeking

postdoctoral opportunities and have received their doctoral degree no earlier than January 1, 2009 and not later than July 19, 2012.

- Citizenship: Applicants must be U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents.
- Award/Program Size: \$12.0 million is anticipated to be available for awards in 2012. Postdoctoral Fellowship Grants are limited to a total award of \$130,000 for two-year duration and are not renewable. Funds should be requested primarily for salary support, although other expenditures (e.g., fringe benefits, supplies, travel, workshops, and publication) are allowable costs.
- Due Date: The last application deadline was January 19, 2012. The next request for applications is expected to be in October 2012.

Source: <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/fellowshipsgrantprogramafri.cfm>, accessed August 29, 2012.

## **Relevant Agencies Not Currently Offering Post-Doctoral Funding**

### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

The mission of the CDC is to protect and improve public health through information that enhances health decision-making and partnerships with state health departments and other organizations. The CDC focuses on developing and applying disease prevention and control policies, especially in infectious diseases, environmental health, occupational safety and health, health promotion, prevention and education activities. The CDC provides opportunities for postdoctoral researchers; however, opportunities require work to be done within the corresponding program at the CDC and not at another institution. The following programs are offered for postdoctoral research at CDC:

- National Center for Health Statistics Postdoctoral Research Program
- Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Postdoctoral Laboratory Research Fellowship Program
- ASM/CDC Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship Program.

Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/Fellowships/PostDoc.html>.

### **Department of Defense**

The Department of Defense (DOD) funds research that is relevant to its mission, predominately drawing from engineering, computer/information science, and physical sciences. However, DOD also provides some limited research and education opportunities in foreign languages, social sciences, and medical and life sciences. While DOD has a number of programs for postdoctoral researchers working at their own laboratories, they do not support postdoctoral fellowships for researchers working at universities. Programs at DOD laboratories include:

- DOD National Research Council Postdoctoral Research Associateships Program
  - <http://www.national-academies.org/rap> (Overall program)
  - <http://www.wpafb.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=9378> (AFOSR)
  - <http://www.nrl.navy.mil/estd/6870/postdoc.php> (NRL)
  - <http://nrc58.nas.edu/RAPLab10/Opportunity/Program.aspx?LabCode=76> (ARL)
- ASEE-NRL Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
  - <http://hroffice.nrl.navy.mil/jobs/postdoc.htm> and <http://nrl.asee.org/>.
- Army Research Lab/Oak Ridge Associated Universities Postdoctoral Fellowship Program
  - <http://www.orau.org/ARLPostdocFellowship/>

### **Department of State**

The Department of State supports a limited number of international social science grants each year. Many of these grants focus on international public policy, governance, and/or human rights. While the Department does not support postdoctoral researchers based at US academic institutions, the Fulbright Scholars program supports research and teaching abroad for Americans holding a doctoral degree (<http://fulbright.state.gov/grants/scholar-program/us-citizen.html>).

### **Department of Transportation**

The Department of Transportation (DOT) oversees federal highway, air, rail, maritime, and other transportation administration activities and functions. The Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA) oversees and coordinates DOT's research and education programs. DOT distributes research funds to state and local transportation agencies as well as academic institutions. DOT does not currently offer support for postdoctoral fellows.

### **Environmental Protection Agency**

Science guides the regulatory decision-making of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Utilizing intramural EPA laboratories as well as the extramural research community, the EPA Office of Research and Development (ORD) conducts research on topics such as air and water quality, ecosystem assessment and restoration, climate change, impacts to human health, and pollution prevention. EPA has limited extramural opportunities for university researchers given that EPA, like a number of other agencies, utilizes its own labs and federal experts. That being said, opportunities exist to complement EPA research efforts. In addition, while postdoctoral fellowship opportunities exist at EPA research facilities (<http://cfpub.epa.gov/ordpd/>), EPA does not typically fund university-based postdoctoral researchers.

### **Department of Homeland Security**

The Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate is the primary research and development arm of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The Directorate has three portfolios that address basic research through advanced technology development and transition, spanning six primary

divisions that address critical homeland security needs: Borders and Maritime Security; Chemical and Biological; Command, Control, and Interoperability; Explosives; Human Factors and Behavioral Sciences; and Infrastructure and Geophysical.

While DHS does not support postdoctoral fellows hosted at academic institutions, there are a couple of programs that support postdoctoral researchers based at DHS laboratories:

- Transportation Security Laboratory Visiting Scientist Program
  - <http://www.orau.gov/DHS-TSLvisSciProg/programdesc.html>
- Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC) Research Participation Program
  - <http://www.orau.gov/piadc/gen-info.htm> and <http://www.orau.gov/piadc/research.htm>

### **Department of Housing and Urban Development**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) mission is to foster community development and affordable housing. While better known as the federal entity that provides funding for low-income or public housing, HUD also has limited resources to support research related to urban development, sustainability, housing, etc. Although not currently funding postdoctoral programs, HUD has supported similar programs in the past, including the Urban Scholars Postdoctoral Fellowship program. HUD program support can vary greatly from year to year depending on congressional appropriations, but current HUD funding opportunities of interest to universities can be found on two websites:

<http://www.huduser.org/portal/research/oup.html> and [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail).

### **National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) conducts space exploration work in five principal categories: Science, Aeronautics, Space Technology, Exploration, and Operations. The Science directorate explores the Earth, Sun, planets, and the Universe. The Aeronautics mission directorate designs and tests new flight technologies that bolster exploration and lead to improved flight capabilities on Earth. The Exploration and Operations directorates concentrate on the International Space Station and developing new methods for human exploration in space. The Space Technology program invests in potentially game-changing technology with applications across NASA mission directorates. In education, NASA activities include support for scientific training in fields relevant to NASA's mission as well as general outreach using space to inspire interest in technical issues and careers.

While NASA does not support postdoctoral fellows based at universities, the NASA Postdoctoral Program supports postdoctoral researchers working at a NASA center, NASA headquarters, or a NASA-affiliated research institute (<http://nasa.orau.org/postdoc/description/index.htm>).

## **National Endowment for the Humanities**

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) is the largest federal funding resource for research in the humanities. By providing funding to individual scholars and institutions, NEH strives to bolster humanities teaching, facilitate scholarship, and preserve educational and cultural resources. NEH does not currently offer programs that support postdoctoral fellows.

## **National Endowment for the Arts**

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is the federal resource that supports traditional art forms including music, dance, and theater projects. The agency provides opportunities for the funding of art promotion and for enhancing access to the arts for underserved or unserved populations. NEA does not currently offer any programs that support postdoctoral fellows.

## **National Institute of Standards and Technology**

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), promotes U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology. NIST is organized into four laboratories: Material Measurement, Physical Measurement, Engineering, and Information Technology. It also has a Center for Neutron Research and a Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology. While NIST does not provide fellowships for postdoctoral researchers based at academic institutions, it does have two programs for fellows to work at NIST sites: the National Research Council Postdoctoral Research Associateships Program (<http://www.nist.gov/iaao/postdoc.cfm>) and the Measurement Science and Engineering Fellowships (<http://www.nistfellows.umd.edu/> and <http://www.colorado.edu/nistfellows/>).

## **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

The mission of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), a bureau of the Department of Commerce (DOC), is to understand and predict changes in Earth's environment and to conserve and manage coastal and marine resources. NOAA is organized according to line offices, including the National Weather Service, the National Ocean Service, and Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, among others. NOAA does not provide any funding for postdoctoral fellows to work at universities or non-profit research institutions, but does fund postdoctoral positions in coastal management at Coastal Zone Management Programs (<http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cms/fellows.html>).

## **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), is the implementation arm for social and behavioral intervention and prevention strategies in public health. Much of SAMHSA's discretionary funds go to state and local governments or to support the health workforce or to

nonprofit entities including universities to implement SAMHSA initiatives; SAMHSA does not provide post-doctoral research or training programs.

More information on SAMHSA grants is available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/>.

### **United States Agency for International Development**

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is a mission agency responsible for implementing America's global development agenda. While USAID offers numerous fellowship opportunities, all involve doing policy work at agency headquarters in Washington or in one of its missions in a developing country. USAID does not maintain fellowship programs which support postdoctoral fellows to carry out research at their home institution. USAID's Bureau of Global Health administers a Global Health Fellowship Program which allows for two years of experience working directly in global health policy. Appointments are made both in USAID headquarters and in developing country missions throughout the world. More information on the program is at <http://www.ghfp.net/content.fsp?id=40815>.

### **U.S. Geological Survey**

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is the scientific research arm of the Department of the Interior (DOI). USGS's research portfolio is primarily intramural with limited extramural research opportunities for academic researchers and the private sector. USGS research is focused on supporting the mission of DOI and includes work in areas such as earthquake physics, water resources, climate change and adaptation, mapping and geospatial collection, and minerals and energy resources.

While USGS does not offer funding for postdoctoral fellows working at academic institutions, they do support postdoctoral researchers working at USGS through the Mendenhall Research Fellowship Program (<http://geology.usgs.gov/postdoc/>).

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