



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Graduate School™

## National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Letter of Intent 2018

Name

Department

R#

College

Email

TTU Research Advisor (if you have one)

Level of Study

Undergraduate Graduation Semester (actual or intended)

Undergraduate

Graduate

Research Topic

Have you applied for a NSF GRFP before?

If Yes, what year did you apply?

Yes

No

Choose GRFP Category your research is most closely associated with

Geosciences

Life Sciences

Computer and Information Science and Engineering

Engineering

Materials Science

Physics and Astronomy

Psychology

Social Sciences

Stem Education  
and Learning

Chemistry

Mathematical  
Sciences

Effective as of the 2017 competition, NSF limits graduate students to only one application to the GRFP, submitted either in the 1st or 2nd year of graduate school.

**Briefly describe your education background including any past or current research experiences.**  
Briefly discuss your future education and career goals. If you have any journal or conference publications, list them here.

**Briefly describe the research project that you will propose to NSF. Include the topical area and professor that you would work with.**

**Submit form to Associate Dean of the Graduate School, Tim Dallas, PhD: [Tim.Dallas@ttu.edu](mailto:Tim.Dallas@ttu.edu)**

## **RETAIN THESE PAGES FOR YOUR RECORDS**

### **2018 GRFP Deadlines:**

**All applications are due at 5:00 p.m., Local Time (in Time Zone of Home Address)**

**October 22, 2018 (Monday)**

- Geosciences
- Life Sciences

**October 23, 2018 (Tuesday)**

- Computer and Information Science and Engineering
- Engineering
- Materials Research

**October 25, 2018 (Thursday)**

- Psychology
- Social Sciences
- STEM Education and Learning

**October 26, 2018 (Friday)**

- Chemistry
- Mathematical Sciences
- Physics and Astronomy

**November 1, 2018 (Thursday)**

- All reference letters must be received by 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time

**Program Solicitation:**

[http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2016/nsf16588/nsf16588.pdf?WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_25&WT.mc\\_ev=click](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2016/nsf16588/nsf16588.pdf?WT.mc_id=USNSF_25&WT.mc_ev=click)

**Early August - FastLane Application Opened**

**Late October - Application Deadlines (determined by discipline)**

**Early April - Awards Announced**

**→ May 1st - Fellows Acceptance Deadline**

## **GRFP Website: <https://www.nsfgrfp.org/>**

Be concise and format your statements effectively. Remember that reviewers will have limited time to read your application. Clearly labeling different sections and addressing explicitly each requirement will make the statement more effective and clear for reviewers.

Keep in mind that NSF does not just seek to fund scientists and engineers; NSF seeks to fund future STEM leaders. Use the statements to show leadership potential, self-starter capabilities, and the ability to work well with others (scientists, students, people in the community, etc.).

Show passion, motivation for a STEM career, and initiative in your past research and other experiences. Be yourself. An application that conveys a clear sense of who you are as a person, with a narrative that has energy and flow, will generally be better received than an application that is impersonal and flat. Remember that the GRFP recognizes individuals based on their demonstrated potential for significant achievements in science and engineering. That is, the potential of individuals is evaluated, not just the proposed research.

Use appropriate scientific form (hypothesis, figures, references) in the Graduate Research Statement.

Don't get bogged down in the specifics, or be overly technical. Instead of elaborate details on theory, focus on the rationale for your studies and the existing literature as it supports your proposed work. While reviewers will generally be knowledge experts in your general field, they probably will not be experts in your specific proposed research topic.

Develop a consistent theme in both of the statements, weaving together your personal story with your academic and career plans and past experiences to make a compelling case why NSF should award you the fellowship. The decision will be based on your demonstrated potential for significant achievements in science and engineering. Keep in mind that reviewers will read your complete application package.