graduate research fellowship

The reserve system's Graduate Research Fellowship program offers qualified master's and doctoral students an opportunity to address scientific questions of local, regional and national significance. The result is high-quality research focused on improving coastal management.

All Graduate Research Fellowship projects must be conducted in a National Estuarine Research Reserve and enhance the scientific understanding of a reserve's ecosystem. While Graduate Research Fellows receive hands-on experience, reserve managers and coastal decision-makers receive vital ecological data. Some research projects have focused on natural vs. human impacts on estuaries, non-point source pollution, invasive species and habitat restoration science. These projects are based on the reserves, local needs, the reserve system's national priorities and the students' interest.

Graduate Research Fellowship funds are available to students on a competitive basis. Two students per year are selected for each reserve, and fellowships may be funded for up to three years. The award of \$20,000 may be used to defray the costs of living, tuition, fees and research supplies. The application deadline is November 1.







