Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need

Program Overview

GAANN Fellowship Program
Program Description

- GAANN provides fellowships through academic departments of institutions of higher education to assist graduate students of superior ability who demonstrate financial need and plan to pursue the highest degree available in a designated area of national need.

GAANN Fellowship Program Designated Areas of National Need

- **Biology**
- **Chemistry**
- **Computer and Information Science**
- **Engineering**
- **Mathematics**
- **Nursing**
- **Physics**
- **Education Assessment, Evaluation, and Research**

GAANN Fellowship Program
Legislative Authority

- The Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need fellowship program is authorized under Title VII, of the Higher Education Act of 1965, Part A, Subpart 2, as amended.

GAANN Fellowship Program
Grant Characteristics

- Provides between $100,000 and $750,000 per fiscal year to an academic department of an institution of higher education;

- The duration of GAANN federal funding is for three years (36 months).

- Institutions must match 25% of federal funds with institutional funds.

Reporting Requirements

- The GAANN program requires the submission of the Annual Performance Report (APR) and the SF-269 Financial Status Report by May of each year.

- The APR report collects such data as to whether the GAANN fellow is maintaining satisfactory academic progress; attending full-time, and whether they meet the requirements specified in 648.40, etc.

Reporting Requirements (continued)

- The SF-269 Financial Status Report provides details related to the time and amount of all disbursements, the stipend award, and the institutional payment.

Reporting Requirements (continued)

- We also require the submission of a final performance report and the SF-269 90 days after the end of the final budget period.

- Submission of these reports is required under the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) volumes 34 CFR 74.51, 75.590, 75.720, and 75.730-732.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.2

Who is Eligible for this Grant?

- Any academic department of an institution of higher education that provides a course of study leading to a graduate degree in an area of national need;

- A graduate program that has been in existence for at least four years.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.4

What is Included in the Grant?

- GAANN fellowship consists of a stipend amount to cover the fellows cost of living expenses.

- The current stipend amount for academic year 2009/2010 will be up to $30,000, depending on the students demonstrated level of need.

GAANN Regulation Section 648.4
(continued)

- The GAANN fellowship also includes an institutional payment that is accepted by the institution in lieu of tuition and fees normally charged to the student.

- The institutional payment in academic year 2009/2010 will be $13,552; annual increase is tied to the CPI.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.7

What is the Institutional Matching Requirement?

- Recipient institutions must provide, from non-federal funds, an institutional matching contribution (cost share) equal to at least 25 percent of the amount of the grant.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.20

How Does an Institution Apply for the Grant?

- Submit an application that responds to the appropriate selection criteria in Section 648.31;

- Describe the current academic program for which the grant is being sought;

- Request a specific number of fellowships to be awarded on a full-time basis;

- Make a concerted effort to seek talented students from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds.

GAANN Regulation Section 648.20 (continued)

- Make fellowship awards to students that meet the requirements of Section 648.40;

- Ensure that supplanting of federal funds does not occur;

- Provide assurances that the institution will provide the institutional matching requirement; and

- Provide assurance that the academic department will provide at least one year of supervised training instruction.

GAANN Fellowship Program
GAANN Regulation Section 648.40

How Does an Academic Department Select Fellows?

- In selecting GAANN fellows, institutions must consider only those students that:

  - Are a U.S. citizen or permanent resident;
  - Demonstrate high degree of Financial Need;
  - Demonstrate Superior Academic Ability and have an excellent academic record; and
  - Plan to pursue the highest degree available in their course of study.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.60

When Does an Academic Department Make a Commitment to a Fellow?

- An academic department can make a commitment to fund a fellow at any point in his or her graduate study for the length of time necessary for the student to complete the course of graduate study, but in no case longer than five years.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.62

How Can the Institutional Payment be Used?

- The institutional payment must first be applied to cover tuition and fee expenses.
- Once tuition and fee expenses have been covered, the remaining institutional payment may be used to cover other educational expenses such as:

GAANN Regulation Section 648.62
(continued)

1) costs for rental or purchase of books, material, or supplies;

2) costs of computer hardware, project specific hardware;

3) membership fees of professional associations;

4) travel, per diem, and registration fees related to educational activities;

5) research expenses; and

6) costs to cover the fellows health benefits, as long as it is a requirement at your institution.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.63

How Can the Institutional Matching Contribution be Used?

The institutional match may be used in the following manner:

1) To provide additional fellowships to graduate students;

2) pay for tuition, and fees;

GAANN Regulation Section 648.63 (continued)

3) pay for the costs of providing a fellow's instruction that are not included in the tuition and fees paid to the institution;

4) supplement the stipend received by a fellow as long as it doesn't exceed the fellows demonstrated level of need.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.64

- Programmatic funds, including the institutional matching funds, may not be used to pay for general operational overhead costs of the academic department.
  - Examples of overhead costs include the costs of supervision, recruitment, capital outlay, and indirect costs.

GAANN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM
GAANN Regulation Section 648.70

What Conditions must be Met by the Fellow?

To continue to be eligible for the fellowship, a fellow must:

1) maintain satisfactory academic progress;

2) devote full-time to studying or research; and

3) not engage in full-time employment, except on a part-time basis in teaching, researching, or other similar activities.

Application Information

- Tentative Competition Dates
- Type of Application
- The Application
- Applicant Information

Tentative Competition Dates

- Notice Inviting Applications: Early February

- Closing Date: Mid March

- Competition Dates: Late April

Types of Applications

- Applications must be written as:
  1. **Single Discipline**
     - A proposal that requests funding in one of the accepted areas of need
  2. **Interdisciplinary**
     - One proposal that request funding for a single proposed program of study that involves academic fields in two or more disciplines.

Types of Applications

■ Applications must be written as:

3. **Multidisciplinary**

- A proposal that is submitted that addresses two or more proposed programs of study that are <u>INDEPENDENT</u> and <u>UNRELATED</u> to one another :

  – Engineering School and Physics school decide to submit a proposal together to meet the 25% match requirement.

  » May submit a multidisciplinary proposal <u>IF</u> the proposed programs are independent and unrelated to one another.

The Application

- Application Consists of:
  1. Standard and Program Forms
  2. Abstract
  3. Narrative
  4. Appendices

The Application

- Forms:

Standard Forms - on Grants.gov:

- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424);
- Department of Education Supplemental Information for SF-424;
- Grants.gov Certification Regarding Lobbying Form;
- Assurances Non-Construction Programs Form (SF-424B);
- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, SF-LLL; and
- Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants form.

The Application

- Forms:

Program Forms - in Application Booklet:

- GAANN Statutory Assurances Form
- GAANN Budget Spreadsheet(s) Form

The Application

- Abstract:
  - Name of Institution;
  - Type of Proposal (Single, Interdisciplinary, or Multidisciplinary);
  - Type of degree awarded (Master's or Doctoral degree);
  - Length of time the program has been in existence; and
  - Summary covering the designated area(s) of national need and the anticipated number of GAANN fellows to be involved.

The Application

- Narrative:
  - Selection Criteria (GAANN Regulation Section 648.31, What selection criteria does the Secretary use?)
    - Changes in point value:
      - » Recruitment Plan – decrease to 5 points
      - » Supervised Teaching Experience – increase to 7 points
      - » Evaluation Plan – increase to 15 points

The Application

- Formatting the Narrative:
  - Use one of the <u>acceptable fonts</u>:
    - Times New Roman
    - Courier
    - Courier New
    - Arial
  - Use of any other font will NOT be accepted, this includes Times Roman and Arial New.

The Application

- Formatting the Narrative:
  - Page limit requirements:
    - Single (40 pages);
    - Interdisciplinary (60 pages); and
    - Multidisciplinary (40 pages for each application)
  - Must not use less than a 12-point font, however can use a 10-point font only in charts, tables, figures, graphs, footnotes and endnotes.
  - Double space ALL text in the application narrative. Only single space text in: charts, tables, figures and graphs.

Formatting Narrative

- Any narrative sections of the application must be attached as a file in a .DOC (document), .RTF (rich text), or .PDF (Portable Document) format.

- Any file uploaded in a file type other than the three listed above or submitted as a password protected file will not be reviewed.

The Application

- Appendices:
  - Curriculum Vitae (maximum two pages per faculty member – uploaded as one document);
  - Course listing;
  - Letters of support;
  - Bibliography; and
  - One additional optional appendix relevant to proposal (maximum of five pages)

Applicant Information

- Submission through Grants.gov
- Applications that are successful may receive a call from their congressional representative
- Receive a Grant Award Notification (GAN) in June. The GAN is official notification that the application was successful.

Applicant Information

- Directory of successful projects is available on the GAANN Web site under the Awards page.

- Unsuccessful applicants are notified by mail. Letters are sent to address from the SF-424.
  - Ensure addresses are <u>correct and complete</u> on the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) before submission of application.

GAANN Information

www.ed.gov/programs/gaann/index.html

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