

GAANN Selection Criteria Presentation



GAANN Technical Assistance Workshop
Gary Thomas, January 30, 2009



GAANN Fellowship Program Criteria for Evaluating Proposals

- Meeting the Purpose of the Program;
- Extent of Need for the Project;
- Quality of the Graduate Academic Program;



Helpful Hints

- Address all selection criteria as well as the sub-selection criteria.
- Use recent statistical data to support your research.
- Keep your goals and objectives realistic and measurable.
- Do not deviate from the formatting requirements as specified in the application.



Meeting the Purpose of the Program (7 points)

Your application will be reviewed based on how well your project meets the purpose of the program.

- The purpose of the GAANN program is to provide fellowships in areas of national need to assist graduate students with excellent academic records who demonstrate financial need.
- Grants are awarded to programs to sustain and enhance the capacity for teaching and researching in areas of national need.
- i.e., consistent with the purposes of GAANN, our nursing program is a masters level program designed to prepare nurse scholars for careers in teaching and advanced research. Currently, there's a serious shortage of nurses in these areas.



Meeting the Purpose of the Program

(continued)

- The applicant's objectives for the project should be realistic and measurable.
 - The applicant's main goals and objective(s) of the project should be clearly stated using up-to-date statistical data to support your statements.
 - i.e., the main objective of this program is to increase the number of nursing scholars at the PhD level to assume educational and leadership roles. The AACN says U.S. nursing schools during 2007 turned away 41,683 qualified applicants to baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs and nearly three-quarters -- 73.5 percent -- of the nursing schools blamed faculty shortages for those rejections.



Meeting the Purpose of the Program (continued)

- The applicant's objectives should seek to sustain and enhance the capacity for teaching and research at the institution and at state, regional, or national levels;
 - Applicant should ensure that the objectives address the capacity for teaching and researching at the state, regional, or national levels.
 - i.e., we will contribute to the capacity for teaching and researching by adding traditionally underrepresented nurses to the national pool of nursing scholars prepared at the PhD level.



Meeting the Purpose of the Program (continued)

- The applicant's objectives should seek to ensure the enrollment of talented graduate students from underrepresented groups.
 - The applicant should reference policies and programs that would ensure enrollment of women or other underrepresented groups.
 - Your objectives for seeking students from underrepresented groups should be realistic.



Meeting the Purpose of the Program (continued)

- The applicant's objectives seek to institute policies and procedures to ensure that it will award fellowships to individuals who satisfy the requirements of Section 648.40.
 - i.e., our academic department will often establish a GAANN Fellowship Committee to ensure compliance with the requirements of 648.40. Our department will also establish a relationship with the financial aid office to determine the students level of need.



Extent of Need for the Project (5 points)

- The extent to which a grant under the program is needed by the academic department will be assessed.



Extent of Need for the Project

(continued)

- How the applicant identified the problems that form the specific needs of the project.
 - When identifying the problems to be addressed in the project, the applicant should provide recent statistical data to make a good case.
 - i.e., Within the state of Pennsylvania, 829 students in FY 2007 were not admitted to nursing programs due to inadequate numbers of nursing faculty.



Extent of Need for the Project

(continued)

- The specific problems to be resolved by successful realization of the goals and objectives of the project.
 - The problems identified should be understandable and the applicant should convince the reader that the proposed plan will make a significant impact on solving problematic concerns.



Extent of Need for the Project

(continued)

- How GAANN fellowships will meet the specific and general objectives of the project.
 - i.e., The GAANN Fellowship will add to our student pool by providing the opportunity to recruit and educate PhD students who have professed a desire to work in academia and teach future generations of nurses.



Quality of the Graduate Program (25 points)

- The quality of the current graduate academic program for which funding is being sought will be evaluated.



Quality of the Graduate Program

(continued)

- Applicant should provide the course offerings and academic requirements for the graduate program.
 - Applicant should provide a list of course offerings of the department(s) involved.
 - Applicants should consider using the appendix to save space in the proposal when providing course offerings.
 - Course numbers and brief course descriptions should be provided.
 - Inter/multi-disciplinary programs should list offerings for all departments.



Quality of the Graduate Program

(continued)

- With regards to academic requirements, the following should be clearly stated in the application:
 - nature of the program (masters or PhD);
 - specific courses, semester hours, content;
 - total number of graduate courses; and
 - possible electives available to fellows.



Quality of the Graduate Program

(continued)

- The qualifications of the faculty, including education, research interest, publications, teaching ability, and accessibility to graduate students.
 - Applicant should ensure that each of these items are addressed (use appendix).
 - Applicant should provide specific examples of how faculty will be made accessible to the students (i.e., mentorship program)
 - Provide a list of departmental faculty involved with the project including name, institution attended, and specialization.
 - Applicant should submit curriculum vitae (CV's) for key faculty members that will be involved in the project.
 - Letters of support from administrators can also be helpful.



Quality of the Graduate Program

(continued)

- The focus and capacity for research.
 - Applicant should provide examples that demonstrate how committed their institution is to research (i.e., the allocation of research dollars to support specific research projects).
 - Is academic research a priority at your institution?
 - Does your institution have the resources (i.e., laboratory space, computers, facilities) as well as the funding to support your capacity for research.



Quality of the Graduate Program

(continued)

- Any other evidence the applicant deems appropriate to demonstrate the quality of its academic program.
 - Highlight national rankings, nobel laureates, annual conferences, memberships in national academies, and funding increases.



GAANN Information

- <http://www.ed.gov/programs/gaann/index.html>
- OPE_GAANN_PROGRAM@ED.GOV