

Archived Information

U.S Department of Transportation Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program

Goal: The Eisenhower Fellowship program is designed to attract the Nation's brightest minds to the field of transportation by providing both students and faculty at the Nation's colleges and universities with opportunities to expand their understanding of transportation-related fields.

Summary: The program was established by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) in 1991 and reauthorized in 1998 by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). The DDETFP provides fellowships for study of subjects related to the various modes of transportation in six categories: 1) Graduate Studies; 2) Research; 3) Historically Black Colleges and Universities; 4) Hispanic Serving Institutions; 5) Faculty; and 6) Tribal Colleges. Fellowship awards are made based on panel reviews of applications submitted for each category. The DDETFP reaches out to more than 800 colleges and universities nationwide and encourages study in more than 100 transportation related disciplines.

Purpose: The DDETFP program is intended to increase the applicant pool for the transportation industry. The program encourages students from their junior year through doctoral level to pursue careers in transportation related fields.

Accomplishments/Results: Since its inception, the DDETFP has provided fellowships to approximately 2,000 students and faculty to pursue transportation studies. More than 80% of those receiving fellowships chose a career in the transportation industry or related research or academia.

Plans/next 12 months: Funding for the program was set in the ISTEA legislation at \$2,000,000 annually and continued in the TEA-21 legislation also at \$2,000,000 per year. Efforts are underway to leverage other resources in the education and transportation communities as a means of supplementing grant funding. The DDETFP may provide less than full funding to the fellowship applicants as a means to support a greater number of applicants.