



NSF SBE

(SOCIAL, BEHAVIORAL, AND
ECONOMIC SCIENCES)

Cross-Directorate Activities
Minority Postdoctoral Research
Fellowships (MPRF) Program

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Office of the Director

Other Directorates

Directorate for Social, Behavioral & Economic Sciences (SBE)

Social and
Economic
Sciences

Behavioral and
Cognitive
Sciences

Science
Resources
Statistics

Science of Learning
Centers

Science of Science
and Innovation
Policy

Cross-Directorate
Activities

Where
**Discoveries
Begin**





Cross-Directorate Activities (CDA) is administered from the OAD (Office of the Assistant Director)

1. REU (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) Sites
2. Minority Postdoctoral Research Fellowships (MPRF)
3. Follow-up Starter Grants (for ex-MPRFs)

Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences



Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS)

- ◆ Human cognition, language, social behavior, and culture
- ◆ Interactions between human societies and the physical environment.

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Division of Social and Economic Sciences (SES)

- ◆ Economic, legal, political and social systems, organizations, and institutions
- ◆ Intellectual and social contexts that govern the development and use of science and technology

Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences



Basic Requirements for MPRF

- ◆ Explain in the proposal how the fellowship award will broaden or encourage the broadening of participation of underrepresented minorities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields in the US.
- ◆ Remember that STEM, as defined by NSF, includes Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences.
- ◆ Those who wish to apply from an already appointed academic position must contact the cognizant program officer prior to applying.



MPRF (Continued)

- ◆ The Fellow must affiliate with a host institution during the entire tenure of the fellowship. The applicant is responsible for making prior arrangements with the host institution and Sponsoring Scientist(s).
- ◆ The host institution should be different from the applicant's Ph.D. institution.
- ◆ Fellowship applications are submitted from individuals – not through institutions.



MPRF (Continued)

- ◆ The fellowship is for 24 continuous months, starting on August 01 of the award year or January 01 of the following year.
- ◆ The total fellowship amount is **\$60,000** per year, including:
 - Annual stipend: **\$45,000**. Paid monthly in installments of **\$3,750** directly to the fellow (via electronic funds transfer into a personal bank account).
 - Annual research allowance: **\$10,000**. For expenses directly related to the conduct of the research.
 - Annual institutional allowance: **\$5,000**. Paid to the institution for fringe benefits, including health insurance payments for the Fellow, and for expenses incurred in support of the Fellow, such as space, equipment, and general-purpose supplies



More ...

- ◆ International collaboration is encouraged.
 - May include trips to foreign collaborator's institution for research.
- ◆ IRB: Applicants whose research involves human subjects and /or vertebrate animals must indicate in the plan their awareness of regulations and guidelines pertaining to these types of research.
 - Successful applicants must provide NSF with documentation that the research has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate institutional committees.
 - Where it is needed, no award can be processed without IRB certification.



Basic Requirements for Research Starter Grant

- ◆ To qualify for the starter grant the Fellow must hold a tenure-track position and be no more than one year since completion of the Fellowship.
- ◆ \$50,000 one-year non-renewable award.
- ◆ Apply through an NSF eligible U.S. academic institution (i.e., where you are employed).



Standard NSF Review Criteria

1. **What is the intellectual merit of the proposed activity?**

- ◆ Importance
- ◆ Qualifications
- ◆ Creativity and Originality
- ◆ Potential for transformative outcomes
- ◆ Conception and Organization
- ◆ Access to Resources

2. **What are the broader impacts of the proposed activity?**

- ◆ Training/Education
- ◆ Diversity/Broadening Participation
- ◆ Infrastructure
- ◆ Dissemination/Public Awareness
- ◆ Societal Benefits



Reporting Requirements

- ◆ For all fellowships, the Fellow must submit an annual project report through FastLane to the Postdoctoral Fellowship Program Officer within 90 days following the anniversary of the start date.
- ◆ Within 90 days after termination of the fellowship, the Fellow is required to submit a final project report through FastLane and a termination certificate (this form will be provided with the post doctoral offer).
- ◆ Fellows are requested to report in their annual and final reports on their educational activities during the fellowship tenure, including mentoring and guiding students at all educational levels.

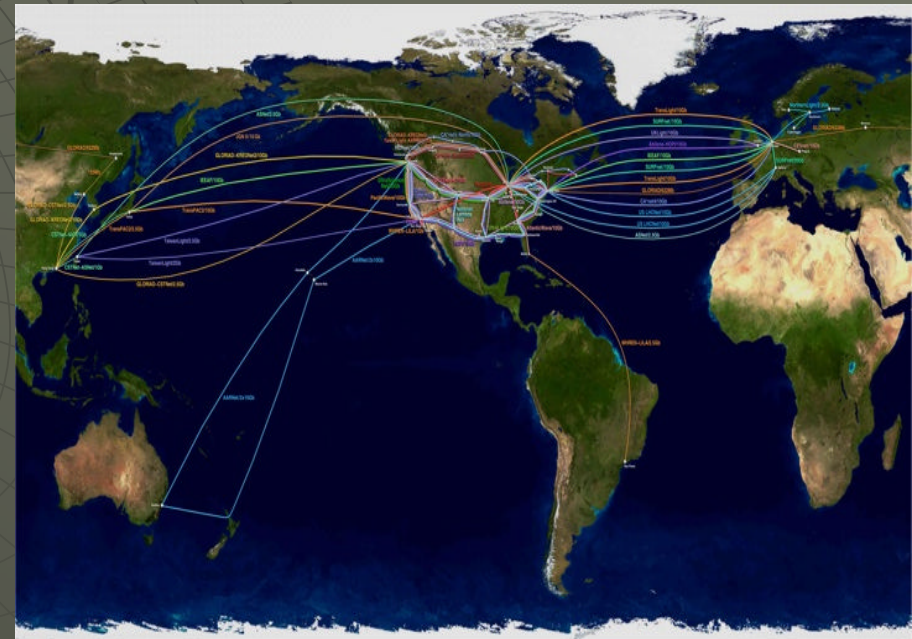


BEWARE!

BEWARE!

- ◆ Failure to provide final project reports delays NSF review and processing of subsequent pending proposals for the Fellow (or the Starter Grant PI).

BEWARE!



07/21/2009



MPRF Topics and Potential Research Fields

- ◆ Any research topic that falls within the scope of social, behavioral and economic sciences is appropriate.
- ◆ SBE welcomes emerging fields that involve cross-disciplinary work.



Emerging and/or Multidisciplinary Themes

- ◆ **Renewable energy, climate change, extreme weather events, water resources, dynamics and quality**
- ◆ **Cyberinfrastructure in SBE sciences**
- ◆ **Computer simulation and algorithms, computation and cognition, computational social science, etc.**
- ◆ **Virtual organizations**
- ◆ **Cyber-enabled learning and discovery**
- ◆ **Complex adaptive systems**
- ◆ **Learning theories**

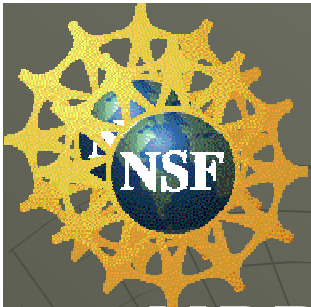


The information in this presentation is consistent with the new solicitation which is now posted ...

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=503424&org=SBE&from=home

Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences

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Summary

- ◆ **MPRFs and Follow-up Starter Grants are excellent mechanisms to begin a new Ph.D. scientist's research career – in many possible exciting directions.**
- ◆ **If there is something that is not clear after reading the solicitation (thank you!) feel free to email the program director.**

QUESTIONS?

Questions?

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