



# NRC's Nuclear Education Program



U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
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The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulates the safe and secure use of nuclear material and protects people and the environment while ensuring the safe use of nuclear energy.

The United States is experiencing an unprecedented demand for electricity, and the global demand will rise sharply over the next 20 years. Reliable energy needs to come from a variety of sources, including nuclear power.

To meet expected workforce needs, the Nation must provide opportunities that encourage careers and research in nuclear, mechanical and electric engineering, health physics, physics, and related fields.

NRC needs a workforce capable of designing, constructing, operating, and regulating the next generation of nuclear facilities. Congress authorized NRC, through the Nuclear Education Program, to provide opportunities to qualified individuals and academic institutions through \$15 million in funding for undergraduate scholarships, graduate fellowships, trade school scholarships, and faculty development grants. This program benefits the entire country by supporting and encouraging nuclear education and nuclear-related careers.

## Eligibility

The Nuclear Education Program provides—

- Grants to support college faculty in science and engineering in the first 6 years of their academic careers. Funding will attract and retain highly qualified scientists and engineers in academic teaching careers like nuclear energy, health physics, and radio-chemistry.
  - Awards up to \$300,000 for educational institutions. Grants may be awarded to tenure-track faculty in amounts of up to \$150,000 for 1 year with matching funds of up to \$50,000 from the university.
  - Scholarships for undergraduates in nuclear science and engineering and fellowships for graduate study in nuclear engineering, health physics, and radiochemistry. Scholarships may be given in amounts of up to \$20,000 a year for up to 2 years. A limited number of \$50,000 fellowship grants may be given to individuals for up to 4 years. NRC only awards grants directly to accredited U.S. institutions of higher education and does not award individual scholarships or fellowships.
1. Applicants must maintain a 3.6 GPA overall and within major.
  2. Applicants must be full-time students enrolled in graduate degree programs in a nuclear-related area.
  3. Recipients must serve 6 months in nuclear-related employment with NRC, other Federal



agencies, State agencies, U.S. Department of Energy labs, nuclear-related industry, or academia in the recipients' sponsored fields of study.\*\* Scholarships may be awarded to accredited trade schools in nuclear fields, such as welding and electrical disciplines, in amounts of up to \$150,000. Trade schools may award scholarships in amounts of up to \$10,000 for 1 year.

## Proposal Review

Each highly-competitive proposal undergoes a rigorous panel and peer review. Proposals are selected through criteria including—

- capacity and ability of the institution to effectively conduct the program
- number and quality of faculty or students that will be served
- quality and feasibility of development strategies
- feasibility and completeness of an evaluation plan to measure the effectiveness of the program
- support for the program and the extent to which the institution is committed to making the program an organizational focus

Proposal deadlines and project milestones may be found on the grants Web site. Full proposal packages are available and can be submitted through <http://www.grants.gov>. You may also view frequently asked questions at <http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/grants.html>.

Questions regarding the Faculty Development Grant Program may be directed to [edufaculty@nrc.gov](mailto:edufaculty@nrc.gov).

Questions regarding the Scholarship and Fellowship Program may be directed to [eduscholar@nrc.gov](mailto:eduscholar@nrc.gov).

Questions regarding the Trade School Scholarship Program may be directed to [edutrades@nrc.gov](mailto:edutrades@nrc.gov).

\*\* NRC may waive this requirement in appropriate circumstances.