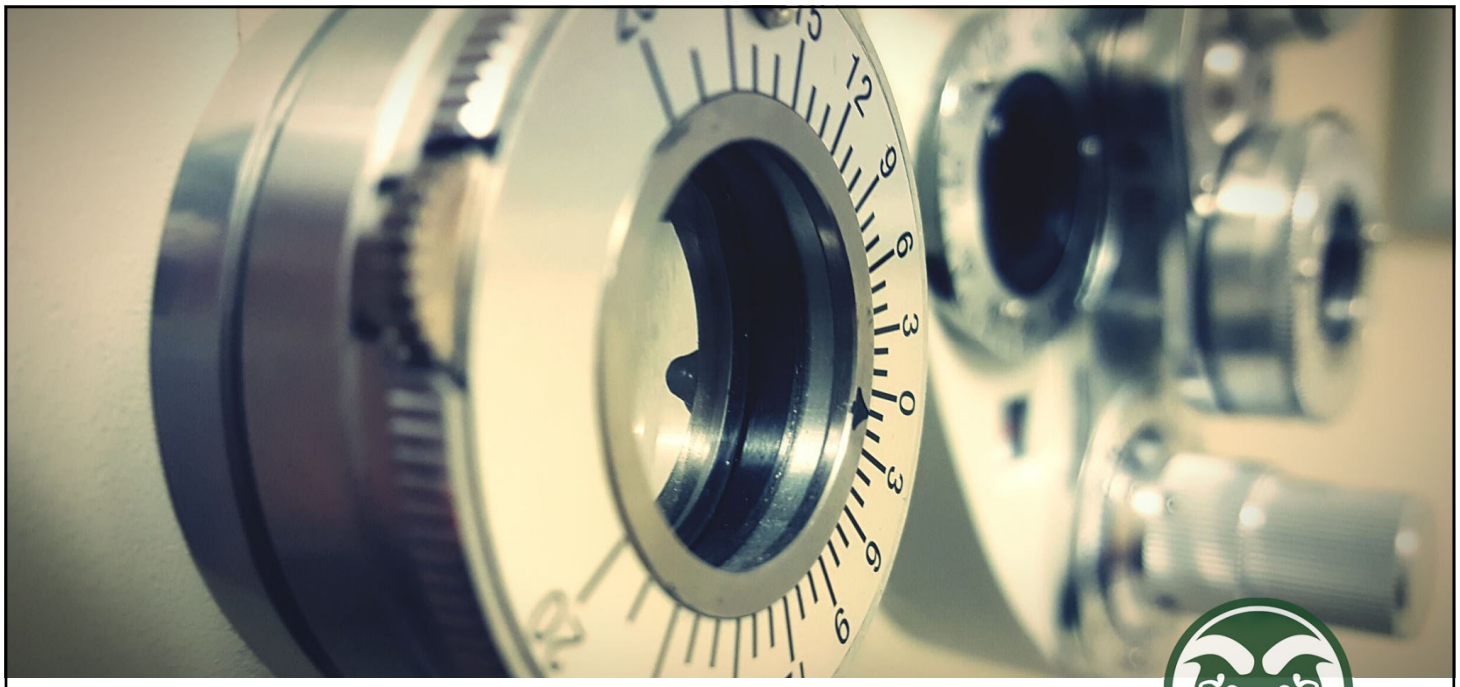

Examining Training Grants

1

Kim Melville-Smith
Assistant Director &
Director of Post-Award
Office of Sponsored
Programs

Aimee Oke
Research Program Manager
College of Veterinary Medicine
and Biomedical Sciences

Presenters

2

NOTES PAGE

1

Recognize differences in sponsored Training agreements

2

Assess appropriate budget categories

3

Plan proactive award management

3

Training Grants

To provide **institutional research training opportunities** (including international) to trainees at the undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral levels.

4

Students on Fellowships or Training Grants

Paid via Stipend

Not tied to hours or effort worked (no tracking in ecrt)

Selected for and paid through the institution

Budget Factors

- Trainees and their related expenses are generally budgeted under participant support (follow program guidelines)
- Tuition Remission is generally required
- Institutional Allowance or Cost of Education accounts may be established separately from stipend accounts
- Other direct costs may be budgeted, and indirect cost might be charged (per sponsor guidance)

Possible Allowable Costs

- Textbooks
- Housing
- Tuition and Fees
- Travel
- Health Insurance
- Other costs related to education and/or training in a particular area

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Mentorship Role

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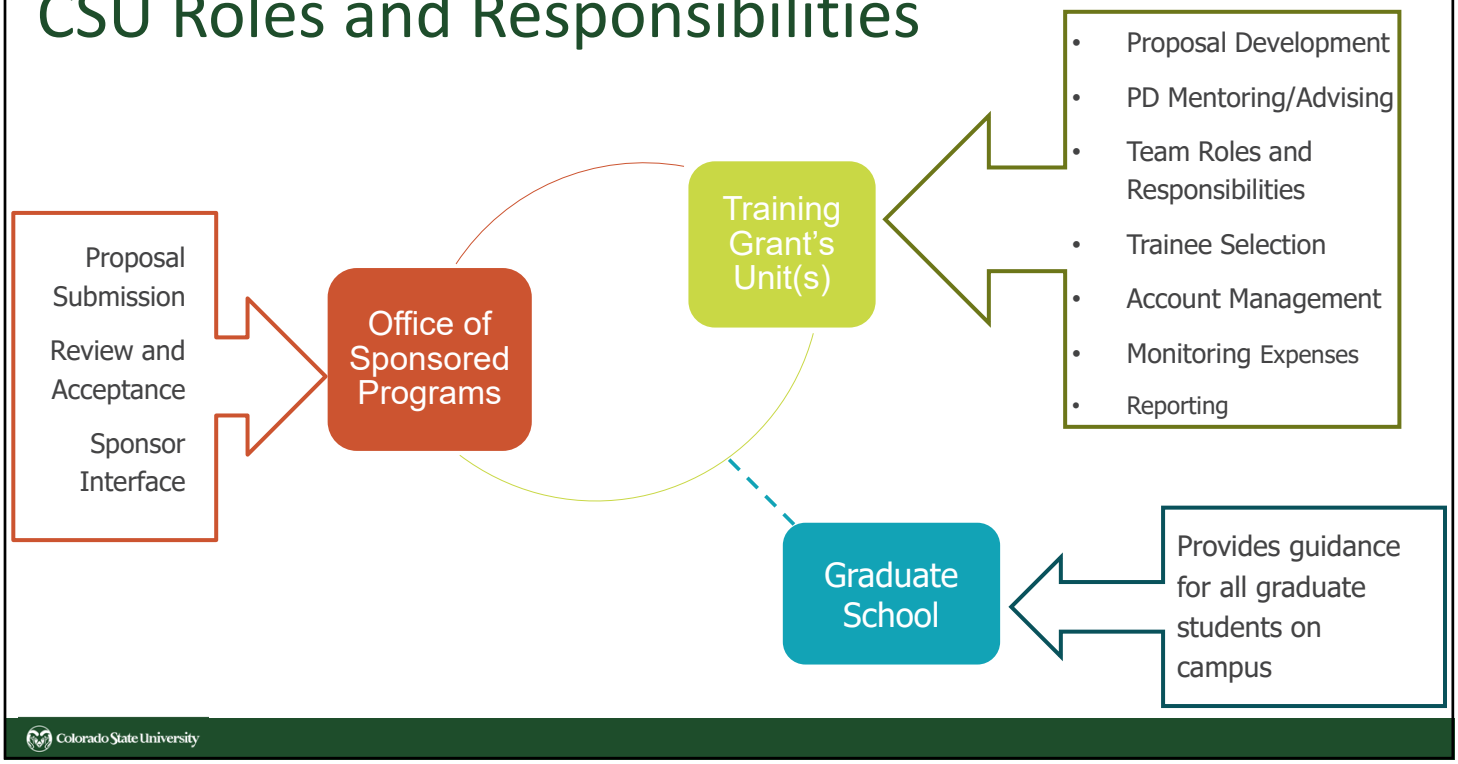
CSU Roles and Responsibilities



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Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research Training

NIH All trainees, fellows, participants, and scholars receiving support through any NIH training, career development award (individual or institutional), research education grant, and dissertation research grant.

NSF All undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers who are supported from NSF sponsored programs; as of July 31, 2023, the requirement is expanded to include faculty and other senior personnel.

USDA Program directors, faculty, undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and any staff participating in the research project.

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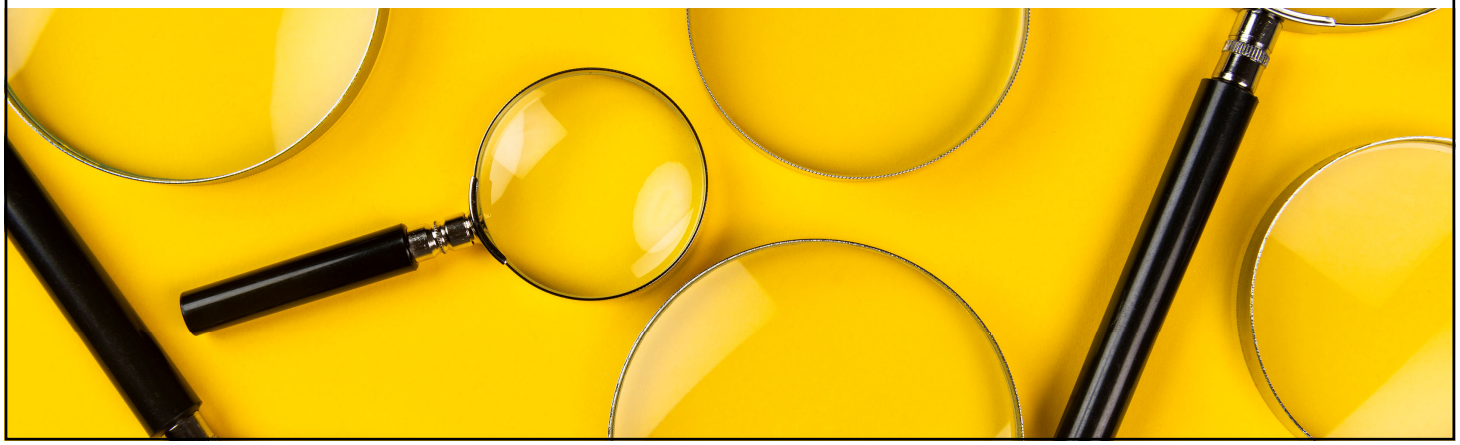
A **full-time** student at CSU is defined as a student/fellow/trainee who is enrolled in greater than or equal to 9 credit hours in a semester



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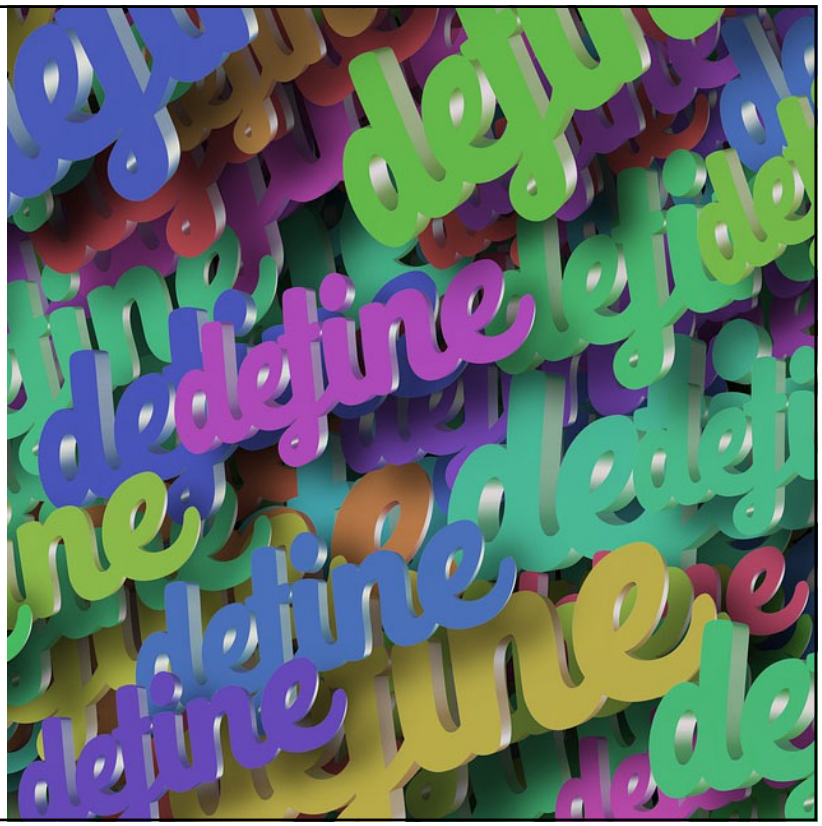
Tuition Remission

When the institution pays all or a part of a student's tuition and/or fees



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NSF Training Grants

NSF Research Traineeship Program 21-536 NRT

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Research Traineeship Program - NRT

"Supports interdisciplinary, evidence-based traineeships that advance ways for graduate students in research-based master's and doctoral degree programs to pursue a range of STEM careers."

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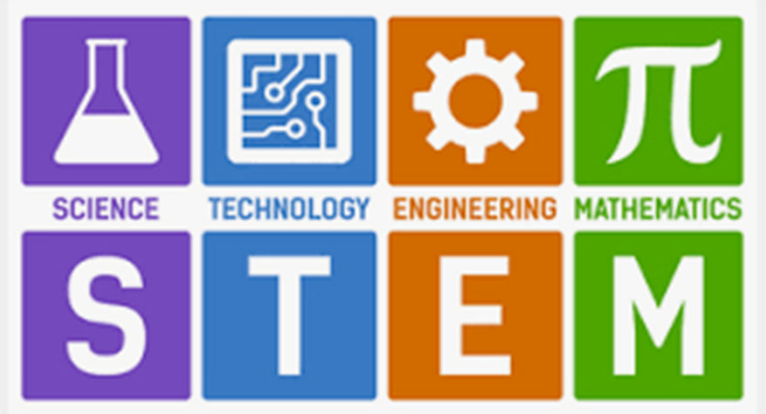
NSF STEM Education works to develop a well-informed citizenry and a diverse and capable workforce of **scientists, technicians, engineers, mathematicians** and educators.



Institution Eligibility for NRT

- **Only Institutions of Higher Education (IHE)** may be lead or non-lead with a campus in the US
- PI must be on the faculty of submitting institution and possess the scientific, teaching, and mentoring **expertise** and the project management **experience**
- **Proposing team** must have an evaluator and a project coordinator
- Independent outside **advisory committee** is required
- Extension of NRT program elements to non-stipend-supported NRT trainees and to non-trainees to benefit a larger population of STEM graduate students across an institution

Eligibility for Trainees

- NRT trainees must be **master's and/or doctoral STEM students** in a research-based degree program that requires a thesis or dissertation
- U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents. International students can participate as non-stipend-supported NRT trainees or as non-trainees.
- must be **full-time students** as defined by the institution

Applying for NRT

- Proposals due September 6th each year
- NRT Track 1: up to 5 years; budget up to $3M
- Institutions limited to 2 submissions annually; PI or Co-PI limited to one submission annually
- Proposal should specify the anticipated numbers of NRT trainees supported with NRT stipends and NRT trainees not supported with NRT stipends
- Describe plans for recruitment, mentoring, and retention of trainees with a particular emphasis on broadening participation of underrepresented groups

Budget – Participant Support

- Include all trainee support (e.g., stipend, costs of education, travel) as **Participant Support Costs** in the budget
  - The NSF minimum contribution to NRT stipends is $34,000/year for an NRT-funded trainee for a 12-month appointment
  - NRT-funded trainees cannot be charged tuition or any other required costs of education while they are receiving a NRT stipend
  - Budget should include customary costs of education (i.e., tuition and required fees) for NRT-funded trainees
  - Additional costs for all trainees (NRT-funded and non-NRT-funded) to participate in programmatic and training elements should be designated as Travel, Subsistence, or Other Participant Support Costs in the budget
  - Required NRT meeting in Washington D.C. for one trainee

Budget – Direct Costs*

- Salaries for PI, Co-PI (if applicable), Project Coordinator (50%-100% appointment), and Evaluator should be included
- Non-trainee travel (including international students and other STEM students participating as non-trainees)
- Required NRT meeting in Washington D.C. for PI, coordinator, and evaluator
- Equipment and Subawards if applicable

NSF NRT – Additionally

- Proposals are submitted by the institution in research.gov with faculty/mentor as PI/PD as well as other senior personnel
- Budget based on the anticipated number of stipend and non-stipend trainees
  - Budgeted under participant support
  - Intended to benefit STEM graduate students beyond those who receive an NRT stipend
  - NRT program elements (courses, workshops, projects, and other training activities) should be made available to other STEM graduate students who are not NRT trainees
- Trainees and non-trainee STEM students are selected by the institution and must be full-time students as defined by the institution

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NIH Institutional Training Grants

NIH Ruth L. Kirschstein Institutional National Research Service Award

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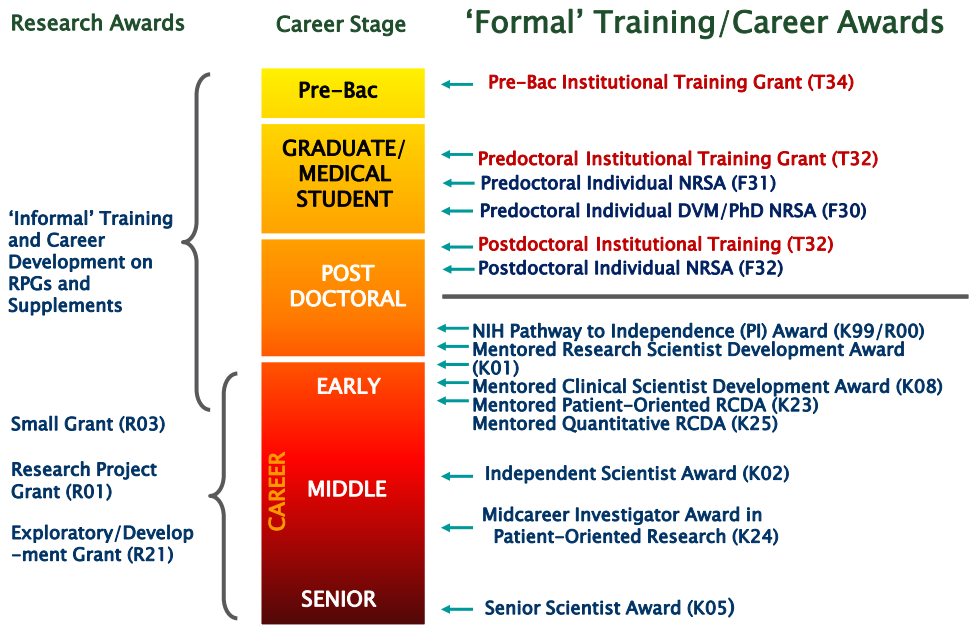
Research Training and Career Development Timeframe



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NIH NRSA Institutional Training Grants

Purpose: To develop and enhance research training through a **coordinated programmatic approach**

- Training is usually provided in defined areas of science
- **Trainees** and fellows are **selected by the institution**
- Awards for Undergraduates, pre-doctoral and post-doctoral students

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Ruth L. Kirschstein Institutional National Research Service Awards (NRSA)

- **Due Dates**: January 25th, May 25th, September 25th
- **Parent Funding Opportunities**: PA-20-142. T32 and T35 most common
- **Budget periods:** T32 – 5 years; T35 – up to 5 years
- **Program Director** (PD)/PI: established investigator in the scientific area in which the application is focused and capable of providing both administrative and scientific leadership
- **Trainees:** US Citizens or Permanent Residents
- **Budgets:** Stipend, Tuition/ Fees, Trainee Travel, Training Related Expenses, Indirect Costs (8% MTDC)
- **Submitted by:** OSP

NIH Institutional NRSA: Budget Categories

Trainee Stipends

- Set by Annual Notice (currently NOT-OD-23-076)
- Rebudgeting is not allowed
- Pre-Doc Stipend $27,144/year, $2,262/month
- No Fringe Allowed
- Notice of Award (NOA) issued each year at a level in place at the time of issuance

Tuition/Fees

- In application, must provide the full cost of tuition and fees per year
- NIH will reduce the budget to 60% of the cost or 16K pre-doc / 21K dual-degree pre-doc
- Rebudgeting is not allowed

NIH Institutional NRSA: Budget Categories

Trainee Travel

Training Related Expenses

- health insurance
- staff salaries* and travel*
- consultant costs
- program administration costs
- research supplies

Consortium Training Costs

- If training occurs at more than one institution and there is a transfer of funds between organizations

NIH Institutional NRSA: Budget Categories

Indirect Costs

- (also known as Facilities & Administrative [F&A] Costs) are reimbursed at 8% of modified total direct costs (exclusive of tuition and fees, consortium costs in excess of $25,000, and expenditures for equipment), rather than based on a negotiated rate agreement.

NIH Institutional NRSA: Award

- Award addresses Program Director (PD/PI) at the institution
- Actual award is always less than proposal because NIH's reduction of full tuition costs.
  - Institution is expected to pay the difference in tuition.
- Childcare costs will generally be provided based on the number of trainee slots awarded. No additional action is needed on the part of the applicant at the time of application to request these funds.

NIH Trainee Appointments

An appointment must be **no longer than 12 months** for the initial period, and **no shorter than 9 months**.

Breaks in service (including parental leave) require IC prior approval

Generally, at NIH, 1 slot equals 1 person, but **depending on the Notice of Award (NOA),** it can also be training months awarded

Appointment start and end dates must match Payroll start and end dates.

NIH Training Grant Limits

Duration of Support:

- **Predoc: 5 years***
- **Postdoc: 3 Years**
- Aggregate limits apply: any combination of individual (F Awards) and/or institutional awards

Exceptions:

- Dual Degree Programs (*combined-degree F30 allows 6 years)
- Interruptions (break in service)

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Unliquidated vs unobligated?

- Grant period: July 1, 2022 -June 30, 2023 (Yr 1 of the grant).
- Trainee appointed on August 16, 2022 for 12 months.
- The whole 12 months of stipend costs are charged to Year 1 of the grant.
- Therefore, the amount for 1.5 months of stipend plus tuition (July 1, 2020- August 15, 2020) will be carried over to Year 2 as an unliquidated obligation from Year 1.
- Training related expenses/ travel funds are not carried forward.
- Any funds not associated with the obligation is called “unobligated” or an “unliquidated balance”

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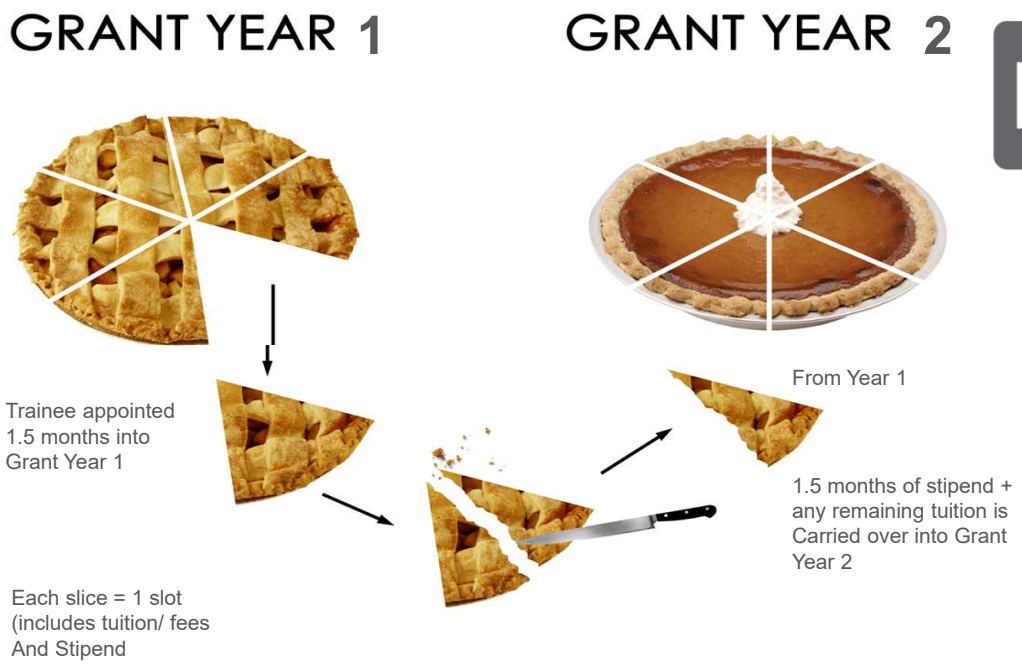

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Prior approval is needed to…

NIH

- Move funds from restricted categories: stipends, tuition, and fees
- Request an NCE to extend the last budget period up to 12 months
- Carryover unobligated balances
- Appoint a trainee during the NCE period

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NIH Institutional NRSA: Additionally

- Trainees must be appointed for at least nine months and must be full-time, 12 person months a year
  - In addition, they may spend an additional 25% or 10 hours a week in part-time research, teaching, or clinical employment
- Trainees will be set up in the xTrain module in eRA commons by the institution
- Postdoctoral appointments may require payback

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USDA Training Grants

National Needs Graduate Fellowship

Colorado State University

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National Needs Graduate Fellowship - NNF

"To develop scientific and professional expertise in the food and agricultural sciences. To support traineeship programs that engage outstanding students to pursue and complete their degrees in areas where there is a national need for the development of scientific and professional expertise in the food and agricultural sciences."

Institutional Eligibility for NNF

- **Land-grant** institutions, Colleges, and Universities with significant minority enrollments, Colleges and Universities with the capacity to teach food and ag sciences
- Must confer degrees in at least one **Targeted Expertise Shortage Area** (TESA)
- **Subawards are allowed**, even if not eligible to apply if they are necessary for the conduct of the project

Trainee Eligibility for NNF

- Current master's and doctoral students **in the food and agricultural sciences**
- Be citizens or nationals of the US
- Strong interest in pursuing a degree in a **Targeted Expertise Shortage Area (TESA)**
- **Full-time student** as defined by the institution
- Have not completed more than one semester of full-time study

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TESAs

- Animal Production
- Plant Production
- Forest Resources
- Agricultural Education and Communication
- Agricultural Management and Economics
- Food Science, Human Nutrition and Human Sciences
- Agricultural Biosecurity
- Data Science

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Applying for USDA NNF

- Budget Period cannot exceed 60 months
- Single-function Education Projects
- Max of $525,000 of total awards can be received by an institution;
- Max of $262,500 per application. **No indirect is allowed**

Category 1 – Master's Level Training	Category 2 – Doctoral Level Training	Category 3 – International Research Travel Allowances (IRTA)
$41,000 for each Fellow	$79,000 for each Fellow	$4,500 for each new Master's Fellow
$18,500 Stipend, $2,000 Institutional Allowance/year	$24,500 Stipend, $2,000 Institutional Allowance/year	$8,000 for each new Doctoral Fellow
2 years	3 years	

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USDA NNF Award – Identified Fellows

Must be registered, full-time, students pursuing full-time, uninterrupted study in graduate programs in TESA

Cannot request partial fellowships

Master's fellows can be supported for a max of 24 months during a 30-month period

Doctoral fellows can be supported for a max or 36 months with a 42-month period

May accept additional supplemental employment that contributes to their training and make them eligible for tuition waivers (GTA or GRA)

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USDA NNF: Additionally

- Award issued to the institution
- Fellows must be identified within 18 months of the start of the grant or funds will be forfeited.
- Unlike many USDA awards there are NO matching requirements
- Tuition and Fees are the responsibility of the Fellow, but the cost of education funds can be used
- IRTA funds CANNOT be rebudgeted

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Prior approval is needed to…

Change a key person specified in the application

Request an NCE to extend the last budget period up to 12 months

Name a Replacement Fellow

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Resources

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MS0

NRT

- Submitted by Institution
- September 6th each year
- Trainees selected by institution
- Master's and Doctoral students eligible
- Trainee must be a full-time student
- Up to 5 years
- Trainee costs budgeted as participant support
- Stipend = minimum $34K for at least 12 months
- COE = tuition and fees
- Student cannot be charged tuition or fees while on NRT stipend
- Must be a full-time student
- Indirect allowed for other direct costs
- No cost share allowed
- Prior approval need to rebudget out of participant support

NRSA

- Submitted by Institution
- January 25th and September 25th each year
- Trainees selected by institution
- Undergraduates, pre-doctoral, and post-doctoral students eligible
- Up to 5 years
- Stipend set by Annual Notice
- Tuition allowance reduced at award to 60% of cost or $16K pre-doc/$21K dual degree – stays flat
- Childcare costs provided based upon number of trainees
- Trainee must be appointed full-time for at least 9 months but no more than 12 months
- Pre-doc support up to 5 years
- Post-doc support up to 3 years
- Indirect capped at 8%
- Prior approval needed for rebugeting in certain categories, NCE, carryover, etc.

NNF

- Submitted by Institution
- June 8, 2023
- Trainees selected by institution
- Master's and Doctoral students eligible
- Trainee must be a full-time student
- Up to 5 years
- Stipend = $18.5K Master's; $24.5K Doctoral
- COE = $2K each year
- Int'l travel allowance: $4.5K Master's; $8K Doctoral
- Additional support can be identified to make them eligible for tuition waivers
- Master's support up to 24 months of 30
- Doctoral support up to 36 months of 42
- No indirect allowed

Colorado State University

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CSU Resources

- Postdoctoral Fellows (https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/postdoctoral-fellows/)
- Fellowship Best Practices (https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/financial/assistantships/fellowship-best-practices/)
- Office of Sponsored Programs Guidance (www.research.colostate.edu/osp/guidance/)
- OSP Newsletters and Blogs (www.research.colostate.edu/osp/newsletters/)
- Quick Clip: Assistantship Salary vs Fellowship Stipend (www.youtube.com/watch?v=xIoszhHnmfc)
- RECR Training Requirement Matrix: https://cga.msu.edu/PL/Portal/2192/ResponsibleConductofResearch%E2%80%93TrainingRequirementsbyAgency
- MyLearning – Student Support on Sponsored Projects (https://csutraining.bridgeapp.com/learner/courses/1958d732/enroll)

NSF Resources

- NSF NRT: https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/national-science-foundation-research-traineeship
- NSF Proposal and Award Policies and Procedures Guide (PAPPG): https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=pappg
- NSF Research.gov: https://www.research.gov/research-web/
- NSF Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on Proposal Preparation and Award Administration: https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/gpg/faqs.pdf

NIH Resources

- NIH Standard Due Dates: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/due-dates-and-submission-policies/due-dates.htm
- Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards Allowable and Unallowable Costs: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/policy/nihgps/HTML5/section_11/11.3.8_allowable_and_unallowable_costs.htm
- Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Stipends, Tuition/Fees and Other Budgetary Levels Effective for Fiscal Year 2023: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-23-076.html
- Frequently Asked Questions (T32 Applications): https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/grants-and-training/t32-application-faqs
- NIH How to Apply - Application Guide: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide.html
- NIH Programs: https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs

USDA Resources

- Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship Grants Program: https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-7/subtitle-B/chapter-XXXIV/part-3402
- NIFA Grants Overview: https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants-overview
- Grants.gov: https://www.grants.gov/
- NIFA Grants.gov Application Guide: https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/opportunities/instructions/PKG00249520-instructions.pdf
- NIFA Terms and Conditions: https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/regulations-and-guidelines/terms-conditions