

Appendix K: Program Element One: Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)

K.1 Scope of Activity

K1.1 Agency-wide Priorities

Refer to Section 1 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

K1.2 Agency Strategic Goals for STEM Engagement

Refer to Section 1.2 of the NOFO.

K1.3 Relevance to NASA

Refer to Section 2.4 of the NOFO.

K1.4 Funding Opportunity

Refer to Section 2.5 of the NOFO.

K1.5 Award Information

Anticipated Type of Award	Research Training Grant
Number of Years of Support	Proposals seeking Master's support shall request at least 2 years of support (with a possibility of a one year extension); Proposals seeking Doctoral support shall request at least 3 years of support (with a possibility of a one year extension).
Total Funding Estimated Number of Awards	Approximately \$550,000 NASA's OSTEM anticipates awarding 10 – 11 Graduate Research Fellows per fiscal year (FY) under this NOFO, pending the availability of funds. NOTE: If opportunities for cost sharing become available, this estimate may increase.

K1.6 Funding Categories

The table below outlines the breakdown of categories by type of funding and funding amounts.

TYPE OF FUNDING	FUNDING AMOUNT
Fellowship Stipend	\$25,000 (Master's) \$30,000 (Doctoral)
Tuition Offset and Fees	\$8,000
Center Based Research Experience (CBRE) Allowance	\$8,000
Health Insurance Allowance	\$3,000
Faculty Adviser Allowance	\$4,500
Fellow Professional Development Allowance	\$1,500

Refer to **Section 3.2** of the NOFO for detailed information on each of the above funding categories.

NOTE:

Institutions are allowed to transfer Tuition Offset and Fees funds to Health Insurance and Professional Development allowance, upon approval from the NASA Fellowship Manager and the NASA Grants Officer. Students are exempt from paying tuition differences (i.e., the difference between the tuition and fees allowance and the actual tuition and fees).

K1.7 Funding Eligibility Criteria – Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)

The following [MSI](#) link leads to the official NASA MSI list. MSIs include Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions (ANNHs), Native American Serving Nontribal Institutions (NASNTIs), and Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs). If a proposer's institution is not listed as an MSI by the proposal due date, the institution's AOR shall provide confirmation of the institution's MSI status via email to NASA.fellowships@nasaprs.com within 24 hours of the proposal due date.

K1.8 Professional Networking Opportunity

NASA Fellows shall participate in the mandatory Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) conference each year. They will have the opportunity to network with other Fellows, meet prospective recruiters, participate in professional development sessions, and attend a graduation ceremony. However, due to COVID-19, this conference may be held virtually or cancelled.

K1.9 Proposal Submission

Refer to Section 6 and Appendix D of this NOFO on Step-by-Step Instructions for Proposal Submission.

K1.10 Pre-proposal Questions and Answers

For clarifications and questions related to Fellowship activity, prospective institutions' candidates and Faculty Advisers are asked to submit their questions in writing to the NASA Fellowship Manager, Carolyn Knowles, at NASA.Fellowships@nasaprs.com. Responses to the submitted questions will be posted on NSPIRES as FAQ under the "Other Documents" section. The list will be updated periodically during the open period of the opportunity.

WebEx details and times will be announced on the NASA Fellowships and NSPIRES websites for both pre-proposal teleconferences.	April 7, 2021
	May 4, 2021

The Pre-proposal teleconferences will outline critical deadlines, eligibility requirements, frequently asked questions, and other details of the Fellowship activity. Institutions' candidates and Faculty Advisers (PI) are encouraged to attend. Refer to the NASA Fellowship Activity on NSPIRES for connection details.

K1.11 Application Review and Evaluation Information

See Section 7 of the NOFO regarding proposal review and selection.

K1.12 Summary of Key Information

Key Information	Summary
Total ESTIMATED annual budget for each NASA Fellowship Activity	\$50K (Master's) \$55K (Doctoral)
Total funding Number of new awards	Approximately \$550K 10 - 11 awards pending the availability of funds.
Start date of award (estimated)	August 16, 2021
Duration of awards	Up to 2 years for a Master's student and up to 3 years for a Doctoral student (Optional Additional Year Extension, See Appendix H)
Award type	Research Training Grant
Solicitation Release Date	March 24, 2021
Pre-proposal Teleconference: WebEx details and times will be announced on the NASA Fellowships and NSPIRES website for both the pre-proposal teleconferences.	April 7, 2021 May 4, 2021
Due date for Proposals	May 24, 2021
Public announcement of awards	Estimated three months after proposals are submitted (After award selections, award notifications will be sent to each PI for acceptance of award.)
Detailed instructions for the preparation and submission of proposals	See the NASA Guidebook for Proposers 2021 edition
Submission medium	Electronic proposal submission is required via NSPIRES; hard copies will not be accepted. See Chapter 4 of the NASA Guidebook for Proposers 2021 edition
Website for submission of proposal via NSPIRES	NSPIRES help desk available at nspires-help@nasaprs.com or (202) 479-9376 from 8 am to 6 pm Eastern Time, Monday to Friday (except on federal holidays).
Selection Official	Carolyn Knowles NASA Fellowship Manager NASA Office of STEM Engagement - NASA Headquarters
Point of Contact	Vandhana Lal NASA Fellowship Activity Manager NASA Ames Research Center Office of STEM Engagement Mountain View, CA 94035 650-604-4709 vandhana.lal@nasa.gov