



National Science Foundation
2415 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Directorate for Education and Human Resources
Division of Graduate Education

March 16, 2017

Brian Cohn
1590 Rosecrans Ave D304
Manhattan Beach, California 90266

Dear Brian Cohn:

I am pleased to inform you that you have been selected to receive a 2017 National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Fellowship. Your selection was based on your demonstrated potential to contribute to strengthening the vitality of the U.S. science and engineering enterprise. Please read carefully and follow the instructions in the next pages for GRFP Fellowship Terms and Conditions, your responsibilities, and how to formally accept your Fellowship, declare fellowship status, and view your rating sheets.

The stipend for 2017-18 is \$34,000 per twelve-month Fellowship Year, given in increments of \$2,833 per month. The GRFP Fellowship period is 5 years, or less if you graduate and complete the fellowship before the 5-year period ends. Financial support is provided for a maximum of three years. The financial support may be used in any three 12-month units, starting in summer (June 1) or fall (September 1) over the five-year period that begins in 2017 (your award year). Your institution will receive a \$12,000 Cost of Education Allowance in lieu of all required tuition and fees for each of the three years you choose to utilize the fellowship funding.

We encourage you to take advantage of professional development opportunities offered through the GRFP; for example, Graduate Research Opportunities Worldwide (<http://www.nsf.gov/grow>) and the Graduate Research Internship Program (<http://www.nsf.gov/grip>). Email notifications and "Dear Colleague Letters" on the www.nsf.gov web site are the typical vehicle for communications of this nature.

Your selection as an NSF Graduate Fellowship awardee is a significant accomplishment. We wish you success in your graduate studies in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) or in STEM education, and continued success in achieving your career aspirations. We look forward to learning about your achievements and contributions during your graduate study and beyond.

Sincerely,
Dean Evasius
Division Director
Division of Graduate Education



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Dear Awardee,

Please read all of the information below and complete the required tasks before the deadline of May 1 (11:59 pm ET). On behalf of the Graduate Research Fellowship Program, we extend a warm welcome to the NSF community.

Sincerely,

Gisèle Muller-Parker, Susan Brennan, Erick Jones, Ty Mitchell
GRFP Program Directors

* You must formally accept the award and agree to the Terms and Conditions of the Fellowship by May 1, 2017 (11:59 pm ET). Visit the NSF GRFP FastLane website (<https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/>) to review the eligibility requirements, certifications, terms and conditions, and to electronically accept or decline this Fellowship. Please note: failure to meet the May 1 deadline to Accept/Decline the Offer will result in revocation of the fellowship offer. Upon acceptance of the award, the GRFP Fellowship cannot be concurrently held or combined with another U.S. Government Federal Fellowship.

* The "Administrative Guide" link on the NSF GRFP FastLane (<https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/>) website opens the NSF GRFP Administrative Guide for Fellows & Coordinating Officials (Guide). This document includes the Terms and Conditions that apply to your Fellowship, in addition to the eligibility requirements and Certifications. You will need to complete the Certifications section on the GRFP FastLane website (see below). These are the same certifications you have already attested to in the application. Failure to comply with the Fellowship Terms and Conditions will result in revocation of the Fellowship.

* Acceptance of the Fellowship constitutes a commitment to pursue a research-based graduate degree in an eligible science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) or in a STEM education field, as described in the Program Solicitation (www.nsf.gov/GRFP). Acceptance of a Fellowship award is an explicit acceptance of this commitment and assurance that you will be duly enrolled in a graduate degree program consistent with the field of study proposed in your application by the beginning of Fall 2017.

* All Fellows from the date of Acceptance through Completion or Termination of the Fellowship must be affiliated with a graduate degree-granting institution accredited in,



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and having a campus located in, the United States, its territories, or possessions, or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico that grants degrees in a GRFP-supported field.

* Familiarize yourself with the NSF GRFP FastLane website (accessed by logging in at: <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/>), as most GRFP actions and requests are handled through this site. The Guide contains the administrative policies and procedures for Fellows and GRFP Institutions. Please review it before contacting your Coordinating Official (CO) or the Program Office.

* You should contact the GRFP Coordinating Official at your intended institution of graduate study to inform her/him that you have accepted an NSF GRFP Fellowship. The Institution Directory is located at <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/>. The CO will assist you in effectively managing your Fellowship and should be your first point of contact in the event the Guide does not answer your questions.

* Following acceptance of the Fellowship you will need to declare your Fellowship Status by May 1, 2017 (11:59 pm ET) through the NSF GRFP FastLane website. Fellowship Status is explained in the Guide. The Fellowship Status Declaration period is open and will close May 1, 2017 (Note: The deadlines for accepting the Fellowship and declaring your Fellowship Status are the same, therefore plan accordingly.) There are two sections that Fellows have to complete. In the Enter Fellowship Status Plans section, Fellows are required to enter their Fellowship Status (Tenure or Reserve) for the upcoming year. In the Enter Tenure and Reserve Plans section, Fellows indicate how they envision utilizing tenure and reserve years over the five year Fellowship period. (Note: this feature helps the GRFP to forecast and allocate funding in the years ahead; it is not viewed as a permanent decision on your part, and the GRFP realizes that opportunities may come up that alter your five year plans.)

* Fellows are expected to make satisfactory academic progress towards completion of their graduate degrees, as defined and certified by the Fellow's GRFP institution. Upon completion of each year of your Fellowship, you are required to submit an Annual Activities Report that documents your activities, accomplishments, progress, and productivity. All Fellows are required to submit the Annual Activities Report by May 1, via the GRFP FastLane Module. Before May 1 of each year, your Annual Activities Report must be reviewed and approved by your Academic/Research Advisor, who signs the Academic/Research Advisor Confirmation Form. This Form is submitted as part of your Annual Activities Report. The Coordinating Official of the GRFP Institution will then certify your eligibility and satisfactory progress, required for fellowship continuance.

* In response to the America Competes Act, all Fellows are required to receive appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research. Please check with the campus CO about the Responsible Conduct of Research training requirement at your (intended) institution.



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* Fellows are responsible for obtaining appropriate permissions and complying with all institutional policies concerning human subjects, hazardous materials, vertebrate animals, or endangered species and copyright and intellectual property.

* All publications, presentations, and creative works based on activities conducted during the Fellowship must acknowledge NSF GRFP support and provide a disclaimer (see Guide).

* Fellows are eligible to apply for supercomputing time through the NSF-supported Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment (XSEDE) and for Facilitation Awards for Scientists and Engineers with Disabilities (FASSED). These opportunities are described in the Guide.

* GRFP Institutions may submit Career Life Balance (CLB) supplemental funding requests (NSF 13-099; <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2013/nsf13099/nsf13099.jsp?org=EHR>) to sustain the research of active NSF Graduate Research Fellows who have been granted an NSF-approved medical deferral for dependent-care (family leave) situations.

* Please ensure that the following e-mail address, and other e-mail addresses from @nsf.gov, is not subject to a spam filter: grfp@nsf.gov. The GRFP Office will send out notices and updates using this address. Keep your contact information and email addresses current, as NSF will use your e-mail address to communicate with you on a regular basis about related opportunities (e.g., GROW and GRIP).

* Your name is included in the Fellowship Awardee list. The NSF publishes lists of Fellowship Awardees and Honorable Mention recipients on the GRFP website at <http://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp>.

Applications were reviewed according to the NSF Merit Review Criteria of Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts. To view your application reviews, please navigate to the NSF GRFP FastLane website and log in using your FastLane GRFP login credentials.

* Navigate to <https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/>.

* Login with your FastLane GRFP Username and Password.

* The "View/Print Application Reviews" link will be available in your Fellows Optional Task List on the home page.

* To view the Review Ratings sheets in a printable Adobe PDF version, click the "View PDF" icon.



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It is recommended that you print or save a copy of the Reviews PDF for your records now, as these will not be available after July 15, 2017.

If you have problems accessing your reviews, please send an e-mail to fastlane@nsf.gov.

Any other questions pertaining to the reviews should be directed to info@nsfgrfp.org.

Certifications by Fellow

You must read and agree to all the certifications and terms and conditions as indicated in the information below before your award acceptance can be submitted.

There are five certifications which must be made before the National Science Foundation can authorize funds for a fellowship award. These concern: 1) controlled substances; 2) delinquency on Federal debt; 3) debarment and suspension; 4) originality of the application; and 5) eligibility criteria.

I certify that:

1. I will not engage in unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance in the conduct of any activity with this fellowship award.

2. I am not delinquent on repayment of any Federal debt.

3. To the best of my knowledge and belief,

(a) I am not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any federal department or agency;

(b) I have not within a three-year period preceding my application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against me for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) I am not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (3) (b) of this certification;

(d) I have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more



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public transactions (federal, state or local) terminated for cause or default.

4. I certify that the two Statements (Personal, Relevant Background and Future Goals Statement, and Graduate Research Plan Statement) in my application are my own original work.

5. I have read the NSF GRFP eligibility criteria and I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief I am eligible for this fellowship. [See Section IV of the Program Solicitation for eligibility criteria (Fellows who are, or who will, enroll in a graduate degree program while on a leave of absence from a professional degree program or professional degree-graduate degree joint program are ineligible for a Graduate Research Fellowship)].

By electronically signing the request, I am certifying that (a) the statements made herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge; (b) I have not previously accepted an NSF Graduate Research or Predoctoral Fellowship; and (c) I have read and agree to comply with NSF GRFP Fellowship Terms and Conditions if the fellowship offer is accepted. I understand that if I accept the offer, failure to comply with the Fellowship Terms and Conditions will result in revocation of the fellowship.

Willful provision of false information in this request and its supporting documents or in reports required under an ensuing award is a criminal offense (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001).