

# Competitive Graduate Fellowships in Neuroscience

September 2016

This is a list of fellowships that Neuroscience PhD students are eligible for. This list is not complete, and there are likely to be other fellowships based on scientific discipline, home country for international students, etc. Please let us know if you discover other fellowships, and we will add them to the list. Also, be warned that deadlines change from year to year, so check the program website for accurate deadlines!

For additional fellowship opportunities, see the Berkeley Graduate Division website:  
<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/financial/deadlines.shtml#extramural>

--Dan Feldman  
Neuroscience PhD Program Director

## US Federal Programs

### **National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)**

This program supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited US institutions. US citizens or permanent residents.

**Application deadline (2014):** November 03, 2013 (Psychology) November 4 (Life Sciences). Deadline for 2015 is not yet announced.

<http://nsf.gov/grfp>

### **National Institutes of Health (NIH) Individual NRSA for PhD Students (F31)**

This is an individual fellowship for predoctoral (PhD) students. These are written in close collaboration with your thesis mentor. It is offered through NINDS, NIDCD, NIDA, NIMH, NIA, and NIAAA, and the proposed research must be dissertation research within the scientific missions areas of the institute. You must be within your first 6 years of graduate school; you must have successfully completed your qualifying examination by the time of the award, and you must be performing dissertation research. Maximum 3 year support. US citizens or permanent residents. There is also a version of this award that aims to support under-represented minority students. Program Announcement: [PA-11-111](#).

Application Deadlines: April 8, August 8, and December 8.

[http://grants1.nih.gov/training/F\\_files\\_nrsa.htm](http://grants1.nih.gov/training/F_files_nrsa.htm)

also [http://www.ninds.nih.gov/funding/areas/training\\_and\\_career\\_development/pre-doctoral-fellowship.htm](http://www.ninds.nih.gov/funding/areas/training_and_career_development/pre-doctoral-fellowship.htm)

### **National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowships**

The NDSEG fellowship from the U.S. Department of Defense annually supports graduate

students in various fields including “Cognitive, Neural, and Behavioral Sciences”, and “Biosciences”. 3 years of full support.

Application deadline: **December 12, 2014**. (2015 deadline not yet announced.)

[http://ndseg.asee.org/apply online](http://ndseg.asee.org/apply_online)

### **Department of Energy Computational Science Graduate Fellowship**

Supports PhD research using high-performance computational or mathematical techniques in a variety of fields, including life science. You must be a US citizen or permanent resident, in your 1<sup>st</sup> year of the PhD program or just applying. Up to 4 years, full support. Deadline: Late January. Application registration and materials begin in October.

<http://www.krellinst.org/csgf/>

### **National Physical Science Consortium**

#### **Graduate fellowships in science and engineering**

Supports PhD research in physics, computer science, engineering, and related fields. This may be appropriate for some Neuroscience students. The fellowship is geared toward women and under-represented minority students. Up to 6 years of support. Includes two summers of paid internship. You can apply at any stage of your graduate career. Deadline: Nov. 30.

<http://www.npsc.org/>

### **Department of Defense**

#### **Science, Mathematics And Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship for Service Program**

Aims to increase the number of civilian scientists and engineers working at DoD laboratories. Provides full scholarship for PhD training in neuroscience, and provides employment at a DoD laboratory on graduation. (You are obligated to work 1 year in exchange for each year of fellowship support.) US citizens only. Deadline: Dec 16 2014 (2015 date not yet announced).

<http://smart.asee.org/>

## **Private Foundation Fellowships**

### **Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) International Student Research Fellowship**

This is a fellowship for international students in the U.S. studying for a doctorate in the sciences. You apply in your 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> year, the fellowship covers years 3-5 or 4-5. The fellowship covering fees, stipend and a research allowance. Tangible evidence of accomplishment (i.e. a publication in a top journal) is required. Students apply to a campus selection committee first (deadline: Oct 13). The committee selects 10 nominees that are forwarded to HHMI, who will select a subset of students to submit a full application.

[http://www.hhmi.org/grants/individuals/intl\\_fellows.html](http://www.hhmi.org/grants/individuals/intl_fellows.html)

campus application form: <http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/financial/deadlines.shtml>

(under Extramural Fellowships). **Note: This program appears to have been suspended for 2017-2018.**

### **HHMI Gilliam Fellowship for Advanced Study**

This is only for students who have previously participated in HHMI's Exceptional Research Opportunities Program (EXROP) before applying to graduate school. Deadline: October.

### **Hertz Foundation**

The Hertz Graduate Fellowship is a graduate fellowship for a variety of physical science, engineering, and "quantitative aspects of modern biology". 5-year full fellowship. You can apply either before or after entering a PhD program. US citizen or permanent resident. Deadline: Oct 30, 2015.

<http://www.hertzfoundation.org/>

### **Ford Foundation**

Application competition is administered by the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academy of Sciences. Many fields including life sciences and psychology. Awards are made on the basis of superior academic achievement, commitment to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level, promise of future achievement as scholars and teachers, and preparation to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students. US citizens and permanent residents. Diversity is a major goal of this award.

**The Predoctoral Fellowship** is a 3-year fellowship for students with > 3 years left in their PhD program. Deadline: November 20, 2015.

**The Dissertation Fellowship** is a 1-year fellowship for students who have advanced to candidacy in a PhD program. Deadline: November 13, 2015.

<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/fordfellowships/>

### **National Physical Science Consortium**

This is a consortium of government agencies, laboratories, and private companies that provide graduate fellowships in science, mathematics, and engineering, targeted primarily to under-represented minorities and women. Most focus is on physical sciences and engineering but it looks like some aspects of Biology may be considered. U.S. citizens. Fellowships up to 6 years. Deadline: Nov 30.

<http://www.npsc.org/index.html>

### **International Fulbright Science and Technology Program**

This is a graduate fellowship for outstanding international students who want to come to the US for doctoral study in a STEM field, including Neuroscience. You must apply before you reside in the US. Provides the first 3 years of support for your PhD studies.

<http://scienceandtech.fulbrightonline.org/>

### **Autism Speaks**

#### **Dennis Weatherstone Predoctoral Fellowship Program**

The candidate must be enrolled in Ph.D. or Sc.D. or a combined degree such as an M.D./Ph.D. program and must be able to spend at least 80% of his/her professional time engaged exclusively in Autism Speaks' research activities for the duration of the award and cannot simultaneously hold another named fellowship. No citizenship requirement. Letter of intent: October, date TBA. Full application: November.

<http://www.autismspeaks.org/science/grants-program/open-grants-how-apply>

### **American Heart Association (Western States Affiliate)**

Predocctoral fellowship, 1-2 year duration. Supports research broadly related to cardiovascular disease and stroke, including basic research and biotechnology. You must have completed initial coursework and be focusing on your thesis research, at time of award initiation. US citizen, permanent resident, or F-1, J-1, or several other visa types. Deadline: July 17.

[http://my.americanheart.org/professional/Research/FundingOpportunities/ForScientists/Winter-2013---Predocctoral-Fellowship\\_UCM\\_443316\\_Article.jsp](http://my.americanheart.org/professional/Research/FundingOpportunities/ForScientists/Winter-2013---Predocctoral-Fellowship_UCM_443316_Article.jsp)

### **Wings For Life Spinal Cord Research Foundation**

Individual Grant: This grant is for established investigators, post-docs, PhDs and technicians. The goals of the individual research grant programme are to perform/promote basic and clinical research related to spinal cord injury by encouraging new investigator's work (including Ph.D. students and technicians) on regeneration and recovery processes, but also to encourage well-established researchers to develop new ideas and/or to transfer their efforts of other areas into spinal cord research. Salary support only.

Abstract deadline: 1st September 2013. Full grant deadline: 1st November 2013

<http://www.wingsforlife.com/en-us/research/application/>

### **PhARMA Foundation Graduate Fellowship**

This supports dissertation research in pharmacology/toxicology, informatics, pharmaceuticals, clinical pharmacology, and health outcomes. Deadline is generally Sep 1 for pharmacology and informatics. Must be US citizen or permanent resident. 2 years of funding, \$20,000 per year. The University selects one candidate for this application. Not yet clear whether Berkeley Neuroscience students are eligible.

<http://www.phrmafoundation.org/>

### **Epilepsy Foundation**

Predocctoral Research Training Fellowship. Up to \$20,000 for one year. Supports predoctoral students with dissertation research related to epilepsy, thus strengthening their interest in establishing epilepsy research as a career direction. Graduate students must be matriculating in a full-time doctoral (Ph.D.) program with an academic career focus. Areas of interest considered include, but are not limited to neuroscience, physiology, pharmacology, psychology, biochemistry, genetics, nursing, or pharmacy. US citizenship is not required. Deadline in late August each year.

<https://www.epilepsyfoundation.org/research/grant-and-fellowship-opportunities.cfm>

### **Grass Foundation Fellowship Program**

This is a specialized fellowship to support a 14-week summer research project at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Projects are investigator-designed, independent research projects by scientists early in their career (advanced predoctoral or postdoctoral). Supported approaches include neurophysiology, biophysics, integrative neurobiology, neuroethology, neuroanatomy, neuropharmacology, systems neuroscience, cellular and developmental neurobiology, and computational approaches to

neural systems. The Foundation also has a longstanding interest in epilepsy-related research. Deadline: Dec 5.

<http://www.grassfoundation.org/grass-fellowship/grass-fellowship-overview>

### **Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds PhD Fellowships**

The Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds awards PhD fellowships to **outstanding** junior scientists with European nationality (max. age: 27 years) who wish to pursue an ambitious PhD project of approximately 3 years in basic biomedical research in an internationally leading laboratory, including in the U.S. Support duration: 2-3 years. Application deadlines: **1 February, 1 June, 1 October.**

<http://www.bifonds.de/fellowships-grants/phd-fellowships.html>

### **Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans**

You must be a "New American" (resident alien, naturalized as a U.S. citizen, or the child of two parents who are both naturalized citizens). Supports up to 2 years of graduate study in any field. This is not science-specific, and focuses on creativity, originality, and leadership.

<http://www.pdsoros.org/competition/index.cfm>

### **Chateaubriand Fellowship Program**

The Chateaubriand Fellowship is a grant offered by the Embassy of France in the United States. Every year, it allows doctorate students enrolled in American universities to conduct research in France for up to 10 months. **Deadline: January 31, 2014**

<http://chateaubriand-fellowship.org/>

### **William Orr Dingwall Foundation, Neurolinguistics Dissertation Fellowship**

This fellowship is for doctoral candidates who are specializing in the field of Neurolinguistics. One year of support. You must have completed all requirements for a doctoral degree, with the exception of the dissertation. You must be studying the relationship between language and the structure or functions of the nervous system. All nationalities. One nomination is allowed from the Neuroscience program per year. Application deadline: March 1, 2013.

<http://dingwallfoundation.org/nl/>

### **American Association of University Women**

**American Fellowships** support women scholars who are completing dissertations. U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Selection is based on scholarly excellence, the specific project design, and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research. Must have completed all course work and qualifying examinations. All fields of study. Scholars engaged in science, technology, engineering, and math fields or researching gender issues are especially encouraged to apply.

**International Fellowships** are awarded for graduate study in the United States to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. 1-2 years. Not clear if you can apply after you've already matriculated. Selection is for academic achievement and demonstrated commitment to women and girls. Deadline: Dec 1.

<http://www.aauw.org/>

### **UNCF/Merck Graduate Science Research Dissertation Fellowship**

Stipend and research grant for 1-2 years. For students who have completed the qualifying examination and are within 1-3 years of completing their dissertation. Program includes life science, physical science and engineering. Applicants must be African-American and US citizens or permanent residents.

<http://www.uncf.org/>

### **Porter Physiology Fellowship from the American Physiological Society**

This program is open to underrepresented ethnic minority students who are US citizens or permanent residents, and are student members (or have applied to become a student member) of APS. You should be doing physiology-based research. Students may apply in any year of their PhD program. Provides 1-2 years of NIH-level stipend, professional development activities and outreach opportunities. Deadline: Jan 15.

<http://www.the-aps.org/mm/Education/Minority-Program/Educational-Projects/Porter-Physiology-Development-Fellowship>

### **Josephine de Karman Fellowship Trust**

This is a 1-year fellowship of \$22K for students in year 3-4 of their PhD study. Open to many fields, and competition is intense. This is a merit award that you would receive on top of normal university support. Open to students of all nationalities. Deadline: Jan 31, 2016.

[www.dekarman.org](http://www.dekarman.org)

## **University of California Fellowships**

### **Mentored Research Award**

This UC fellowship is aimed at 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD students who either: 1) experienced substantial impediments to advancing to graduate study; 2) whose research relates to educationally disadvantaged populations; or 3) who have an intention to use their PhD to serve educationally underrepresented populations. US citizens and permanent residents. Provides fees, partial stipend, and mentoring. This requires a nomination by the program, so if you are interested, please contact Dan Feldman. Deadline: Late April.

<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/financial/deadlines.shtml#graddiv>

### **University of California Dissertation-Year Fellowship**

This fellowship is aimed at students who have already advanced to candidacy and who have completed two dissertation chapters or the equivalent (this probably means you have published 2 papers, or 1 substantial paper that represents two thesis chapters). You must be on track to finish in a year. US citizens and permanent residents. Targeted at students who 1) experienced substantial impediments to advancing to graduate study; 2) whose research relates to educationally disadvantaged populations; or 3) who have an intention to use their PhD to serve educationally underrepresented populations. Provides stipend,

fees, travel allowance. This requires a nomination by the program, so if you are interested, please contact Dan Feldman. Deadline: Late April.

<http://www.grad.berkeley.edu/financial/deadlines.shtml#graddiv>

### **Initiative for Maximizing Student Development (IMSD) Graduate Fellows Program**

This UC Berkeley program aims to promote excellence and diversity in the sciences. Targeted at students who either come from an under-represented group, or are disabled, first-generation college students, or from a disadvantaged background. Provides stipend, tuition, research & travel allowance, and professional development activities. US citizens or permanent residents. Deadline: April 30.

<http://imsd.berkeley.edu/graduate.html>

### **UC MEXUS-CONACYT Doctoral Fellowships for Mexican Students**

For Mexican students doing their doctoral studies at UC. Up to 5 years of funding. Supports most disciplines, including psychology, quantitative biology, statistics, biophysics.

Deadline: April 19.

[http://ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/doctoral\\_fellow.html](http://ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/doctoral_fellow.html)

### **Peder Sather Grant Program**

Scientific research grants by the Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study. Supports projects carried out by researchers at UC Berkeley in collaboration with researchers from nine Norwegian universities. This includes PhD student exchanges for collection and analysis of data, and other research activities. Note: This is a research grant, not a PhD fellowship, and your PI is the one to apply. \$10-25K, one-year. Deadline: March 1.

<http://sathercenter.berkeley.edu/peder-sather-grant/>

### **France Berkeley Fund**

Research grants for collaborative research projects between UC Berkeley and scientists at public institutions of higher education in France. Includes all scholarly disciplines. This is not a PhD fellowship; this is seed-money for innovative collaborative research projects, exchanges of researchers in laboratories, or workshops or conferences. \$12K, one year.

Deadline: June 31.

<http://fbf.berkeley.edu>

### **Graduate Student Parent Grant**

This UC Berkeley grant is for registered graduate student parents who live with dependent children and demonstrate financial need. Up to \$4,000 per academic term (\$8,000 per academic year). Not clear how financially needy you must be to win this. Deadline: July 9.

<http://grad.berkeley.edu/financial/families/>

## **Other small awards and travel awards**

### **Elizabeth Roboz Einstein Fellowship, UC Berkeley**

One-semester, \$3000 award for doctoral candidates in the neurosciences relating to human development. From UC Berkeley Graduate Division. Applicants must show distinguished scholarship and the ability to conduct research at an advanced level. The application is very brief. Deadline: Early November. *Note: Not many applicants, you have a good chance of winning this!*

<http://grad.berkeley.edu/news/funding/einstein-fellowship/>

### **Graduate Fellowships Office Conference Travel Grants**

Awards to allow Ph.D. students at Berkeley to attend professional conferences. You must present a paper or poster on your research at the conference you are attending. Grant amounts depend on location of the conference (up to \$600 within California, \$900 elsewhere in North America, \$1,500 outside of North America). Each student is eligible for two grants per graduate career. *Note: This is pretty automatic, all you have to do is apply and have your PI write a short letter. Everyone should apply for this!!* Deadline: 3 weeks before date of travel.

<http://grad.berkeley.edu/resource/conference-travel-grants/>

### **Graduate Assembly Travel Award**

Provides funding to graduate students presenting at conferences taking place outside of the San Francisco Bay Area. You must be presenting at the conference. An adviser support letter is needed. \$300. Selection is by raffle.

<http://grad.berkeley.edu/resource/graduate-assembly-travel-award/>

### **American Federation for Aging Research**

Glenn/AFAR Scholarships for Research in the Biology of Aging

Provides \$5000 scholarship for a 3-6 month research project, proposed by the applicant, on topics including neurobiology and neuropathology of aging, metabolic and endocrine changes, stem cells and aging. You must be a PhD student in good standing. Does not appear to have a nationality requirement. Deadline: January 15.

<http://www.afar.org/research/funding/glenn-afar-scholarships/>

### **Company of Biologists, Traveling Fellowships**

Up to £2,500 to support travel for collaborative visits to other laboratories. Research must be relevant to the following journals: *Development, Journal of Cell Science, The Journal of Experimental Biology, and Disease Models & Mechanisms*. Any nationality.

Deadlines: April 30, August 31, and December 31

### **Society for Neuroscience**

**Trainee Professional Development Awards.** These pay up to \$1000 for travel to the SFN conference and meeting registration. You must be the first author on an SFN abstract to be eligible. Apply through the main SFN website.

<https://www.sfn.org/Awards-and-Funding/Individual-Prizes-and-Fellowships/Professional-Development-Awards/Trainee-Professional-Development-Awards>



**Phi Beta Kappa Graduate Fellowship**

Fellowship for members of Phi Beta Kappa currently enrolled as doctoral students at UC Berkeley. Usually given to those in the final stages of writing a dissertation. \$5000. Deadline is early in the year.

<http://pbk.berkeley.edu/fellowships/>

**Fight for Sight****Summer Student Fellowship**

Provides funding for summer research projects for PhD students related to detection, understanding, prevention, treatment and cures of visual disorders; includes research on visual and motor pathways in the brain. You choose your project and mentor. Deadline: Feb 1.

<http://www.fightforsight.org/Grants/>

**DAAD: German Academic Exchange Service**

Offers several short-term research programs for students in US graduate programs who wish to do 1-10 months of research in Germany. The RISE professional program supports Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, and other disciplines.

<https://www.daad.org/>