Competitive Graduate Fellowships in Neuroscience

September 2019

This is a list of fellowships for Neuroscience PhD students. 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 aware that deadlines change from year to year, so check the program websites before applying!

For additional opportunities, see the UC Berkeley Graduate Division Guide to Fellowships and Grants: <https://grad.berkeley.edu/news/headlines/guide-to-fellowships-grants/>

Michael Silver

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.

**2019 application deadline:** October 21 (Life Science, Geosciences), October 22 (Computer and Information Science and Engineering, Engineering, Materials Research), October 24 (Psychology, Social Sciences, STEM Education and Learning), October 25 (Chemistry, Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Astronomy), November 1 (Reference Letter Submission).

<http://nsf.gov/grfp>

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

This is an individual fellowship for predoctoral (PhD) students. They are written in close collaboration with your thesis mentor. It is offered through NINDS, NIDCD, NIDA, NIMH, NEI, NIA, and NIAAA, and the proposed project must be dissertation research within the scientific mission of the institute. You must be within your first 6 years of graduate school, have successfully completed your qualifying examination by the time of the award, and conducting dissertation research. Maximum of three years of 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-16-309](https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-16-309.html).

**Application deadlines**: April 8, August 8, and December 8.

<https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/fellowships/F31>

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

The NDSEG fellowship from the US Department of Defense annually supports graduate students in various fields including “Cognitive, Neural, and Behavioral Sciences”, and “Biosciences”. Three years of full support.

**Application deadline**: December 2019

<https://ndseg.asee.org/about_ndseg>

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

## 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 first year of the PhD program or just applying to graduate school. Up to four years of full support.

Application deadline: application will be available late October 2019

<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 six years of support. Includes two summers of paid internship. You can apply at any stage of your graduate career.

Application deadline: December 6, 2019

<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 one year in exchange for each year of fellowship support. US citizens only.

Application deadline: December 3, 2019 at 5PM EST

<https://smartscholarshipprod.service-now.com/smart>

Private Foundations

## HHMI Hanna Gray Fellows Program

Fellows will receive funding ($80,000 annually) for up to four years of their postdoctoral training and may continue to receive funding ($270,000 annually) for up to four years during their early career years as independent faculty. The program includes opportunities for career development, including mentoring and active involvement in the HHMI scientific community.

Application deadline: January 8, 2020

<http://www.hhmi.org/programs/hanna-h-gray-fellows-program>

## HHMI Gilliam Fellowship for Advanced Study

Application for the Gilliam Fellowships for Advanced Study is open to eligible pairs comprising thesis advisors and PhD students (“advisor-student pairs”).

Advisor-student pairs from eligible disciplines must be nominated by the HHMI-designated institutional representative (currently Fiona Doyle); and prospective fellows must be US citizens or permanent residents, from racial, ethnic, and other underrepresented groups in the sciences, or Alumni of the HHMI EXROP and be at the appropriate program stage of their PhD training.

Support is for up to three years of dissertation research, typically in years 3-5 of PhD studies. Nominations must therefore be made for students in their second or third year of a PhD program that have advanced to candidacy by September 1, 2020. The advisor-student pairs must be studying scientific problems in biomedical and life science disciplines.

<http://www.hhmi.org/developing-scientists/gilliam-fellowships-advanced-study>

## Hertz Foundation

The Hertz Graduate Fellowship is a graduate fellowship for a variety of fields, including “quantitative biology”. 5-year full fellowship. You can apply either before or after entering a PhD program. US citizen or permanent resident.

Application deadline: October 23, 2019.

<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. Application deadline: December 17, 2019.

**The Dissertation Fellowship** is a 1-year fellowship for students who have advanced to candidacy in a PhD program.

Application deadline: December 10, 2019.

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

## Autism Speaks, Dennis Weatherstone Predoctoral Fellowship Program

Two-year fellowships for predoctoral students launching careers in autism research. No citizenship requirement.

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/fellowship-programs>

## PhARMA Foundation Graduate Fellowship

This supports dissertation research in pharmacology/toxicology, informatics, pharmaceutics, clinical pharmacology, and health outcomes. Must be US citizen or permanent resident. Two years of funding, $20,000-$25,000 per year. The University selects one candidate for this application each year.

**Application deadline**: September 1, 2019

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

## 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.

Application deadline: December 5, 2019.

<https://www.grassfoundation.org/fellowship-overview>

## Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds PhD Fellowships

Awards PhD fellowships to outstandingjunior scientists with European nationality (max. age: 27 years) who wish to pursue an ambitious PhD project of approximately 3 years in basic biomedicine in an internationally leading laboratory, including in the U.S. Support duration: 2-3 years.

Application deadlines: February 1, June 1, October 1.

<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.

**Application deadline**: November 1, 2019.

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

## 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 4-9 months.

**Application deadline**: October 2019

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

## American Association of University Women

**American Fellowships** support women scholars who are completing dissertations. U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The fellowship must be used for the final year of writing the dissertation. 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.

Application deadline: November 1, 2019.

<https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/american-fellowships/af-dissertation-application/>

**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. Selection is for academic achievement and demonstrated commitment to women and girls.

Application deadline: November 15, 2019.

<https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/international-fellowships/if-application/>

## Porter Physiology Fellowship from the American Physiological Society

This program is open to underrepresented ethnic minority students who are US citizens or permanent residents. The applicant’s advisor must be a member of APS. Applicants should be doing research in the physiological sciences. Students may apply in any year of their PhD program. Provides 1-2 years of NIH-level stipend, professional development activities and outreach opportunities.

Application deadline: January 15, 2020

<https://www.the-aps.org/professional-development/awards/trainees/porter_fellowship?SSO=Y>

## 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. This is a merit award that you would receive on top of normal university support. Open to students of all nationalities.

Application deadline: January 31, 2020

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

**William Orr Dingwall Foundation**

Dissertation Fellowship in the Cognitive, Clinical, and Neural Foundations of Language

The amount of the stipend will be $30,000 for a period of 12 consecutive months (prorated for shorter periods). Awards will be made to graduate students who have completed all requirements for a doctoral degree, with the exception of the dissertation, at an accredited university in the United States.

Application deadline: May 2020

<https://dingwallfoundation.org/neurolinguistics/>

University of California Fellowships

## Mentored Research Award

This UC fellowship is aimed at 2nd 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 Michael Silver.

Application deadline: Early March.

<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. 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 Michael Silver.

Application deadline: Early March.

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

## 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 of support.

Application deadline: April 1, 2020.

<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, it is seed-money for innovative collaborative research projects, exchanges of researchers in laboratories, or workshops or conferences. 12K, one year.

Application deadline: January 31, 2020.

[http://fbf.berkeley.edu](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 $11,000 per year.

Application deadline: July 1, 2019

<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.

Application deadline: November 2019. 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 for 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!!*

Application 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 Bay Area. You must be presenting at the conference. An adviser support letter is needed. $300. Selection is by raffle.

Application deadline: August 20, 2019 for Fall 2019 conferences; January 24, 2020 for Spring 2020 conferences; April 18, 2020 for Summer 2020 conferences.

<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 a subject related to the basic sciences and aging. You must be a PhD student in good standing. Does not appear to have a nationality requirement.

Application deadline: April 15, 2019

<http://www.afar.org/research/funding/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 one of the following journals: *Development, Journal of Cell Science, The Journal of Experimental Biology, and Disease Models & Mechanisms.* Any nationality.

Application deadlines: August 30, 2019 (for travel after October 14, 2019), November 29, 2019 (for travel after January 14, 2020), March 6, 2020 (for travel after April 20, 2020), May 29, 2020 (for travel after July 13, 2020)

<http://www.biologists.com/travelling-fellowships/>

## Society for Neuroscience - Trainee Professional Development Awards

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.

Application deadline: June 2019.

<https://www.sfn.org/Meetings/Meeting-Awards/Trainee-Professional-Development-Award>

**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.

Application d**eadline:** January 29, 2019.

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

## Fight for Sight, Summer Student Fellowship

Provides $2500 for summer research projects for PhD students in eye-related clinical or basic research.

Application deadline: February 15, 2020

## <http://www.fightforsight.org/Grants/Research-Award-Types/>

## DAAD: German Academic Exchange Service

Several short-term research programs for students in US graduate programs for 1-10 months of research in Germany. The RISE professional program supports summer internships in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, and other disciplines.

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