Office of Graduate Fellowships

Fellowship Opportunities in:

Psychology

Introduction

The following is a sampling of fellowship opportunities and resources for graduate students in Psychology and related subfields. Psychology students are also encouraged to consult the Office of Graduate Fellowships listings for STEM, Education, Health Professions, and general dissertation fellowships, since some topics or areas of research in Psychology overlap with these areas of interest. Students are encouraged to use the listings and search tools available at the APF and APF web sites (the first two listings below) and the on the Office of Graduate Fellowships’ search page to pinpoint awards that are well matched to their needs. Be aware that many awards are targeted by subfield, research topic, stage of education, or demographic factors; always read eligibility requirements carefully before proceeding. The Director of Graduate Fellowships is available to provide one-on-one advising and support to graduate students in the application process, including feedback on written proposals and statements and assistance in locating other support services on campus.

American Psychological Association (APA)
http://www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx
A search tool for identifying grants (including graduate fellowships and scholarships) sponsored or administered by APA and its affiliate organizations.

American Psychological Foundation (APF)
Awards and fellowships for graduate students ranging from small travel grants to $25,000 dissertation fellowships. Amounts, allowable expenses, and deadlines vary.

Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellows Program
http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/policyfellows/index.htm
This award funds students whose research lies at the intersection of science/technology and public policy to attend a prestigious 12-week science and technology policy workshop in D.C., including monetary stipend and other support. No citizenship restrictions. Preference given to advanced doctoral students or recent Ph.D.s. Deadlines/session dates vary; see web site for up to date information.

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DoD SMART Scholarships  
https://smart.asee.org/

The SMART Program aims to increase the number of scientists and engineers in the DoD by supporting both undergraduate and graduate students in STEM discipline (including biosciences) whose research and career interests align with the mission of the Department of Defense. The program is particularly interested in supporting individuals that demonstrate an aptitude and interest in conducting theoretical and applied research. As such, the program primarily targets "hand-on-the-bench" researchers and engineers. Individuals applying to the program should have a strong interest in working for the DoD as a civilian research scientist or engineer after graduation, and be able to commit to mandatory paid summer internships in DoD-affiliated labs during the tenure of the award. The award provides stipend, tuition, paid research internships, and a research allowance for up to five year, plus post-graduation employment. Applicants must be U.S. citizens at the time of application. Students may apply to the SMART program at any point during their graduate studies. All DoD SMART scholars are paired with a DoD sponsoring facility. The list of sponsoring facilities in the biosciences (and other fields) may be viewed at the web site.

Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation Dissertation Fellowships  
http://www.hfg.org/df/guidelines.htm

Dissertation completion award of $20,000 for candidates in the final year of their Ph.D. program. The HFG Foundation supports research on violence and aggression in in relation to social change, intergroup conflict, war, terrorism, crime, and family relationships, among other subjects. Field / discipline is open, but dissertations with no relevance to understanding human violence and aggression will not be supported. Application deadline falls in February annually.

National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship (NDSEG)  
https://ndseg.asee.org/

As a means of increasing the number of U.S. citizens and nationals trained in science and engineering disciplines of military importance, the Department of Defense (DoD) annually awards approximately 200 new three-year graduate fellowships through the NDSEG program. These awards are offered to individuals in the early stages of graduate study who have demonstrated the ability and special aptitude for advanced training in science and engineering, including Biosciences. The award provides stipend and full tuition support for three years. The application is due annually in December for funding to begin in the subsequent academic year. At the time of application, applicants must have completed LESS THAN two full-time years of graduate study (or the part-time equivalent) in the discipline in which they are applying. For most students this means they can apply in the fall semester of the first or second semester of graduate study (including master’s programs and all post-baccalaureate study. The applicant may be a master’s student at the time of application so long as their ultimate goal is the Ph.D.) This application is completed and submitted by the applicant and NOT through the Office of Sponsored Programs.
NIJ Graduate Research Fellowship Program
http://www.nij.gov/nij/funding/fellowships/graduate-research-fellowship/welcome.htm
The National Institute of Justice Ph.D. Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) program provides awards of up to $50,000 (including tuition, fees, stipend, and research funds) for research on crime, violence, and other criminal justice-related topics. Two tracks are offered:
(1) Social/Behavioral Sciences and (2) STEM.

Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)
http://www.nsfgrfp.org/
The NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) provides three years of support to early-stage graduate students in NSF-supported disciplines, including a stipend (currently $34,000 per year), tuition/fees, and access to special research and training opportunities available only to GRFP fellows. The competition is open to U.S. citizens and permanent residents who have completed LESS THAN twelve months of full-time graduate study at the time of application. (The applicant may be a master’s student at the time of application so long as their ultimate goal is the Ph.D.) Application deadline falls in October annually for funding to commence in the subsequent academic year. This application is completed and submitted by the applicant and NOT through the Office of Sponsored Programs.

NSF East Asia and Pacific Summer Institutes for Graduate Students (EAPSI)
NSF and selected foreign counterpart science and technology agencies sponsor international summer research institutes for U.S. graduate students in seven East Asia and Pacific locations. Applicants must propose a location, host scientist, and research project that is appropriate for the host site and duration of the international visit. An EAPSI award provides: 1) first-hand research experiences in Australia, China, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore, or Taiwan; 2) an introduction to the science, science policy, and scientific infrastructure of the respective location; and 3) an orientation to the society, culture, and language. The NSF award includes participation in the Pre-Departure Orientation, summer stipend of $5,000, and airfare to the host location. EAPSI partner agencies pay in-country living expenses.

NIH F31: Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award
https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/fellowships/F31
Many institutes within NIH offer training fellowships for U.S. citizens and permanent residents pursuing doctorates on topics of priority interest for health research. This award, which is renewable up to five years, provides stipend and tuition support plus a small award to the institution to cover the costs of administration. The purpose of this program is to enable promising pre-doctoral students to obtain individualized, mentored research training from outstanding faculty sponsors while conducting dissertation research. The proposed research training is expected to clearly enhance the individual’s potential to develop into a productive, independent research scientist. The NIH runs 3 competition cycles per year with deadlines in April, August, and December. The application requires the support of a faculty mentor with an NIH funding track record to serve as sponsor, plus a proposed affiliation with a participating NIH institute. This application must be submitted through the Office of Sponsored Programs.
NIH R36: Dissertation Award
https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/research-education/R36
These grants support dissertation research costs of students pursuing doctorates in specific areas of priority for NIH (Aging Research, Drug Abuse, Mental Health Research, and Health Services Research.) The award provides stipend and tuition support, plus funds to support dissertation research costs. Application submission due dates vary by award category; see web site. This application must be developed in close cooperation with the dissertation supervisor and submitted through the Office of Sponsored Programs.

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)
Fellowships and paid internships for graduate students whose research is at the intersection of psychology and public policy/social issues.

AND DON'T FORGET THESE...
Graduate students in Psychology may also be eligible to apply to the following nationally competitive awards:

Fulbright U.S. Student Grants
http://us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html
Opportunities to conduct independent research or assist in teaching English language around the world. US citizens only. Application deadline for GMU endorsed candidates is September 15 – start planning in spring/summer to submit in early fall.

American Association of University Women (AAUW)
http://www.aauw.org/learn/fellows_directory/
AAUW supports women in all fields of study seeking graduate degrees. This organization offers two fellowships relevant to Psychology students: American Fellowships are dissertation completion fellowships for women who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents in ALL fields of study. International Fellowships support international students at U.S. universities at both the Master’s and Doctoral levels in ALL fields.

Boren Fellowships
http://www.borenawards.org/boren_fellowship
Boren Fellowships support international research and training with an emphasis on the study of less-commonly-taught languages. Open to all fields of study. Proposals to study overseas for 6+ months are preferred, but others may be considered, particularly in the sciences. Will not support travel/study in Western Europe. U.S. citizens only. Recipients of this award commit to working for the Federal Government for one year following graduation.
Critical Languages Scholarships (CLS)
http://clscholarship.org/
CLS offers full funding to attend an overseas summer language program in a “critical” language. Currently 14 languages are offered. For some, no background is required and students at all levels (including beginners) may apply. For others pre-requisites apply, see website for details. U.S. citizens only. Open to all fields of study, so long as you can demonstrate relevance to your academic and professional goals.

Cosmos Scholarships
http://www.cosmosclubfoundation.org/scholars/grants-program.html
Small grants ($500-$4,000) for research in any field of study, awarded to graduate students at D.C. metro area universities. No citizenship restrictions. Deadline is November 1 annually.

Ford Foundation Fellowship Program
http://sites.nationalacademies.org/PGA/FordFellowships/index.htm
Pre-Doctoral, Dissertation, and Post-Doctoral awards for PhD and Sc.D students intending academic careers as scholars and teachers. This award is open to US citizens in most fields of study. The award aims to promote diversity in higher education by funding candidates: (a) Who are a member of an under-represented minority, including Alaska Natives, Black/African Americans, Mexican Americans, Native American Indians, Native Pacific Islanders, and Puerto Ricans. (b) Whose research and career aims demonstrate a likelihood of using the diversity of human experience as an educational resource. Application deadline: November.

Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans
http://www.pdsoros.org/competition/
Supports students who are recent immigrants (e.g. naturalized citizens of the U.S.) or the children of immigrants for graduate study in the United States. All fields are eligible, but student must not be beyond their second year of graduate study in their chosen field. November.

Presidential Management Fellowships (PMF)
http://www.pmf.gov/
The PMF program places graduating graduate students in a two-year paid position in the US Federal Government. U.S. citizens only. Students apply during the final year of graduate study or up to two years following graduation. All fields welcomed. STEM track is available for those interested in STEM-focused careers in the Federal Government, though STEM candidates can also apply through the traditional PMF program. Apply in September annually.

SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program
http://www.sreb.org/page/1074/doctoral_scholars.html
SREB (Southern Regional Education Board) is a regional award open to minority Ph.D. students at George Mason University. Two types of fellowship are offered: The Doctoral Award supports new Ph.D. students and offers up to 3 years of funding (tuition and stipend). The Dissertation Award is a one-year dissertation completion award (tuition and stipend). U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are members of a racial or ethnic minority and plan to become a full-time college or university faculty member after earning the Ph.D. Please note that only VA residents (certified VA domiciled by GMU) are eligible to hold this award at George Mason University. Deadline: On or about March 1, annually.