How to Apply

- Find Research Opportunities that match your interests by exploring www.nas.edu/rap.
- Contact prospective Research Adviser(s) to discuss your interests. Research Adviser contact information is provided on the website. Note that you can apply to up to three different laboratories during an application cycle.
- Refer to our website for specific application information including deadlines and instructions on how to apply.
- Apply online. Follow application instructions carefully and ensure all supporting documents (transcripts and letters of recommendation) are submitted.

Competitive awards are available for scientists and engineers to conduct independent research in federal laboratories and affiliated institutions. Awards include attractive stipends, health insurance, professional travel, and relocation.

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
Fellowships Office
NRC Research Associateship Programs
500 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-334-2760
nap@nas.edu
The NRC Research Associateship Programs

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine administers competitive post-doctoral and senior research awards on behalf of U.S. federal research agencies and affiliated institutions with facilities at over 100 locations throughout the U.S. and abroad. Awardees have the opportunity to:

- conduct independent research in an area compatible with the interests of the sponsoring laboratory
- devote full-time effort to research and publication
- access the excellent and often unique facilities of the federal research enterprise
- collaborate with leading scientists and engineers at the sponsoring laboratories

Eligibility

Awards are available for scientists and engineers at all stages of their career. Applicants should hold, or anticipate receiving, an earned doctorate in science or engineering. Degrees from universities abroad should be equivalent in training and research experience to a degree from a U.S. institution. Many awards are open to foreign nationals as well as to U.S. citizens.

The Selection Process

Applications are reviewed by panels of distinguished scientists and engineers representing the fields of Chemistry, Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, Engineering, Mathematics and Applied Sciences, Life Sciences, and Physics. Evaluation is based on the applicant’s academic and research record, letters of recommendation, and scientific merit of the proposed research. Reviewers assess the quality of an application, the likelihood for success, and the contribution of the research to the mission of the sponsoring federal laboratory. Awards are made based on the ranking assigned by the review panel.

Receiving an NRC Research Associateship Award

Awards are initially for 12 months with renewal for a second or third year determined by evaluation of the Associate’s progress, and the availability of funding. Senior awards may be for shorter periods. Summer Faculty awards are for 8-14 weeks, renewable for up to 3 successive summers. The tenure for Davies Fellows is three years and is divided between the U.S. Military Academy (for teaching) and the Army Research Laboratory (for research).

Research is conducted in collaboration with a Research Adviser who is a member of the senior professional staff at the laboratory. Research Advisers provide guidance, advice, and support for the Associate during their tenure.

Stipend and Benefits

NRC Research Associates receive annual stipends ranging from $45,000 to $80,000 for recent doctoral recipients and are proportionally higher for Senior Associates. In addition, the NRC Research Associateship Programs provide health insurance, relocation benefits, and an allowance for professional travel. The host laboratory provides research facilities, equipment and funding for supplies to support the Associate’s research.