
APPLICATIONS AND TIMELINE

Deadlines and detailed application instructions are available on the JSF website: www.nas.edu/jsf.

The following general timeline applies:

Early August

Competition opens

Mid-October

Application deadline

November

Finalists selected

January

Finalist interviews

Early February

Fellows selected

Mid-August

Fellows enter on duty

(pending completion of the security clearance)

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

Fellowships Office

500 Fifth Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001

202-334-3478

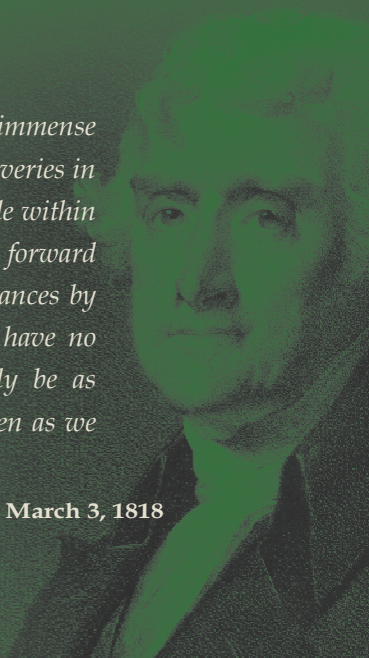
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"When I contemplate the immense advances in science and discoveries in the arts which have been made within the period of my life, I look forward with confidence to equal advances by the present generation, and have no doubt they will consequently be as much wiser than we have been as we than our fathers were . . ."

— Thomas Jefferson, March 3, 1818

JEFFERSON SCIENCE FELLOWSHIPS



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INTRODUCTION

The contribution of state-of-the-art science, technology, engineering, and medicine to the formulation and implementation of U.S. government policy and international development has been recognized throughout the second half of the 20th-century as a critical element in reaching sound, comprehensive conclusions that reflect “good governance.”

Recognizing this need, on October 8, 2003, the Secretary of State announced the Jefferson Science Fellowships (JSF) as an innovative model for engaging the American academic science, technology, engineering, and medical communities in U.S. foreign policy and international development.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The JSFs are administered by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine and supported by the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The fellowships are open to tenured, or similarly ranked, faculty from U.S. institutions of higher learning who are U.S. citizens. Fellows spend one year on assignment at the U.S. Department of State or USAID serving as advisers on issues of foreign policy and international development. Assignments are tailored to the needs of the hosting office, while taking into account the Fellows’ interests and areas of expertise. Following the fellowship year, Fellows return to their academic career bringing their expertise with them back to their institution and remain available to the U.S. government as experienced consultants for short-term projects.

TERMS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

The JSF is a collaborative effort between the U.S. academic community and the U.S. Department of State and USAID; therefore, financial and institutional support for the fellowship is shared among these partners. During the fellowship year, the Fellow’s salary and benefits will be paid by their academic institution, and the academic position of the Fellow, together with all the rights and privileges associated with that position, will be maintained. The Fellow receives a stipend or per diem allowance of approximately \$50,000 to cover local living expenses (if relocating to Washington, DC.). Some Fellows may receive dedicated funds for approved fellowship-related travel and training.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

An MOU must be executed between the applicant’s academic institution and the National Academies. The MOU documents that the applicant’s institution supports the application and agrees to the terms of the award. To determine if your institution currently has a valid MOU or to initiate a new MOU, contact jsf@nas.edu or call 202-334-3478.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

A panel selected by the National Academies conducts a review of all application packages from which a group of finalists will be selected. Finalists will be invited to interview -- virtually or in person in Washington, DC -- to determine who will become Fellows at the U.S. Department of State or USAID.

Eligible applicants will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Stature, recognition, and experience in an academic discipline in the sciences (life, physical, and/or social), engineering, or medicine;
- Ability to rapidly and accurately understand scientific advancements both within and outside their discipline area and to effectively integrate this knowledge into U.S. Department of State and USAID policy discussions;
- Ability to articulate science and technology to the non-specialist/general public;
- Benefit of the fellowship to the applicant and the applicant’s academic institution; and
- Related experience which may positively influence the success of the applicant in this fellowship.

Applicants who are selected will be required to undergo a security investigation to obtain a clearance or facility access at a level determined needed for the position.

For more information,
please visit www.nas.edu/jsf
or scan the QR code.

