

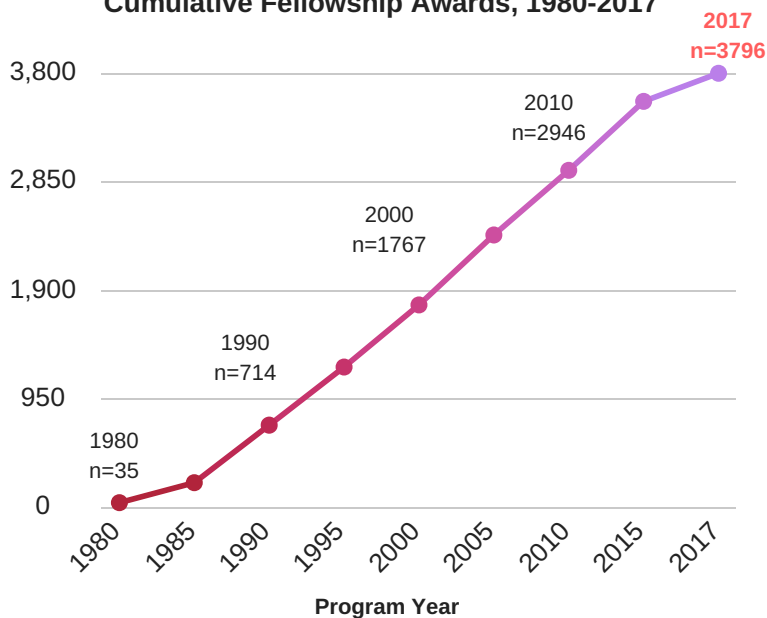
FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS

Building a Community of Scholars and Leaders

Growing the Family of Ford Fellows

The Ford Foundation Fellowships have been administered by the Fellowships Office of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine since 1979. Since that time, the fellowship programs have gone through three major iterations: the Ford Foundation Fellowships for Minorities (1980-2004), the Ford Foundation Diversity Fellowships (2005-2009), and the Ford Foundation Fellowships (2009-present). With each iteration, the goal of the fellowship programs has remained the same — the development of a diverse and talented, qualified and innovative professoriate.

Cumulative Fellowship Awards, 1980-2017



The Ford Foundation has long been known for its efforts in championing the scholarly enterprise and, with its commitment to broadening representation, participation, and inclusion in the ranks of the United States professoriate.

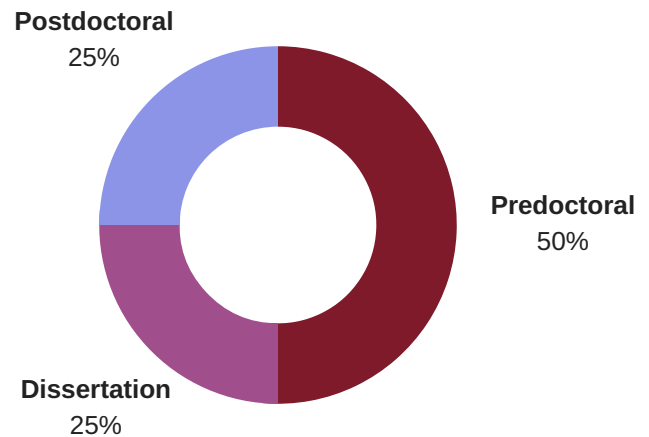
These fellowships have been awarded in support of the pursuit of excellence in scholarship and research to individuals intending careers in institutions of higher education. Beginning with 35 fellowships in 1980, the number of awards have grown over time, and, with 130 awards made in 2017, a total of 3796 Ford Foundation Fellowships have been awarded to date. (Also, prior to the stewardship of the Fellowships Office of the National Academies, the Ford Foundation had awarded 2306 fellowships, for a total of 6102 awards made over the program's history.)

Of special note is the Ford Fellows Fund, independently created and administered by former Ford Fellows. The Ford Fellows Fund was established in 1994. Contributions by Fellows to the Fund have provided for the award of additional Fellowships each year to promising and deserving students and scholars. The Ford Fellows Fund represents just one of the ways that the Fellows have demonstrated their gratitude to the Ford Foundation, their appreciation for its mission and belief in the Fellowship programs, and their overall commitment to "giving something back."

Crossing the Academy: A Multi-Disciplinary, Multi-Level Vision

The Ford Foundation Fellowships have played a major role in developing academic talent and increasing excellence as a contribution to the professoriate. On average, the Ford Foundation now funds approximately 130 Fellowships annually, awarded to individuals pursuing or holding advanced research degrees at the predoctoral, dissertation, and postdoctoral (or equivalent) levels. The majority of awards are at the predoctoral level, with 50% awarded at this level in 2017 compared to 25% of awards at the dissertation level and 25% of awards at the postdoctoral level.

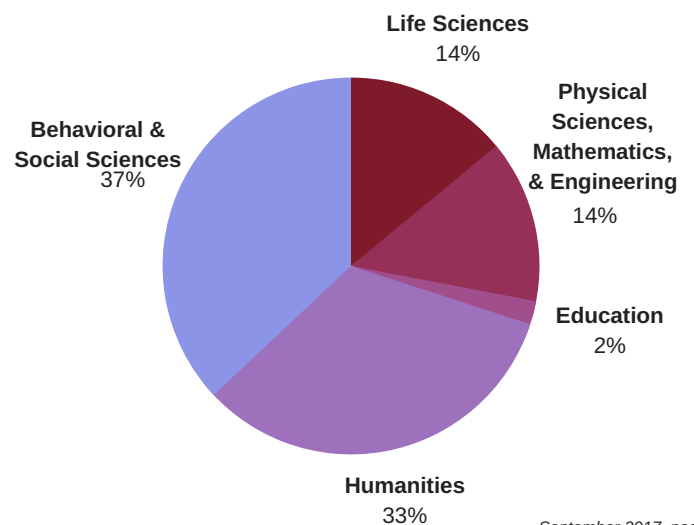
Awards by Level, 1980-2017



DEDICATED TO AN ENCOMPASSING VISION AND APPRECIATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP, THE FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS ARE AWARDED TO SUPPORT PROMISING SCHOLARS IN FIVE BROAD DISCIPLINARY CATEGORIES:

1. Humanities
2. Behavioral & Social Sciences
3. Life Sciences
4. Physical Sciences, Mathematics, & Engineering
4. Education

Awards by Field, 1980-2017



September 2017, page 1

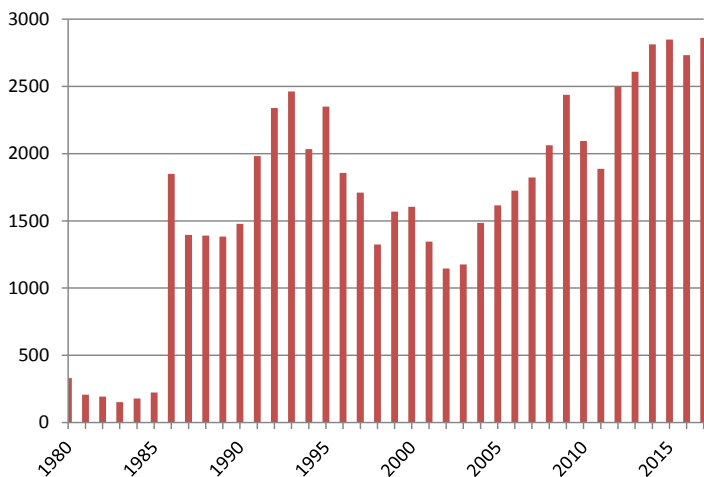
FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIPS

Building a Community of Scholars and Leaders

Education is the most powerful weapon that you can use to change the world. — Nelson Mandela

Answering the Call for Academic Excellence and Service

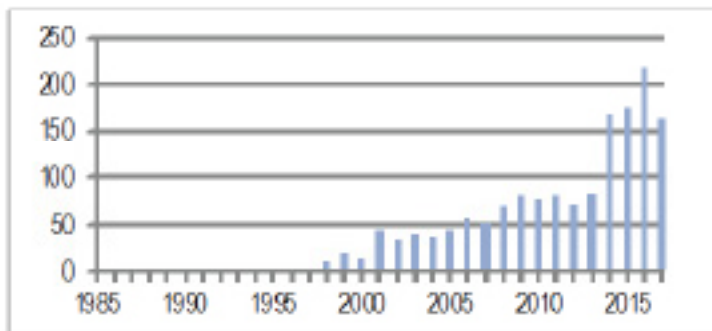
Fellowship Applications, 1980-2017



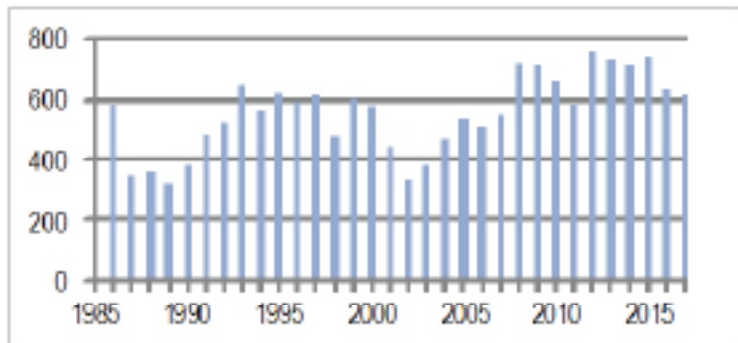
Reflecting the competitiveness and significance of the Ford Foundation Fellowship Program, applications far exceed the number of awards each year. For 2017, the number of applications received was 2753 for the 130 awards. Application rates vary by field and level. Of the 2017 applications, 52% were for predoctoral awards, 29% were for dissertation awards, and 19% were for postdoctoral awards. In the humanities, 619 applications were received, with 47% at the predoctoral, 39% at the dissertation, and 14% at the postdoctoral level.

Education had 164 applications, with 55% at the predoctoral, 35% at the dissertation, and 10% at the postdoctoral level. The life sciences had 690 applications, with 76% at the predoctoral, 11% at the dissertation, and 13% at the postdoctoral level. The physical sciences, mathematics, and engineering had 464 applications, with 81% at the predoctoral, 12% at the dissertation, and 7% at the postdoctoral level. At 816, the behavioral and social sciences received the most applications, with 68% at the predoctoral, 25% at the dissertation, and 7% at the postdoctoral level. With a typical overall success rate of only 4-5%, the fellowships are highly competitive. Selection is on the basis of merit and, as a group, Ford Foundation Fellowship recipients have fulfilled the promise that they display in the review process, vindicating their selection through success and adding value through excellence and commitment in teaching, research, and service to academia, to their communities, and to society in general.

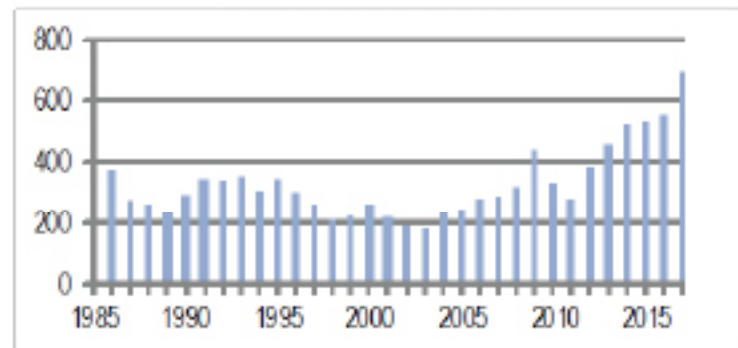
Education Applications



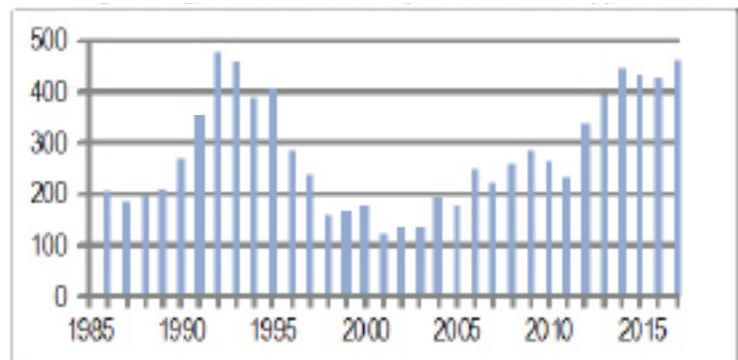
Humanities Applications



Life Sciences Applications



Physical Sciences, Mathematics, & Engineering Applications



Behavioral & Social Sciences Applications

