



Experimental Program to
Stimulate Competitive Research

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Graduate Student Research Assistantship (GSRA) Program

Issued: January 16, 2009
Applications Accepted Immediately
Final Due Date: Noon, March 25, 2009

ND EPSCoR implemented this program to increase opportunities for graduating seniors from the North Dakota University System baccalaureate universities to obtain M.S. and/or Ph.D. degrees in science, engineering, and mathematics at North Dakota's two research universities, NDSU and UND.

Eligibility:

Candidates will have graduated from Dickinson, Mayville, Minot, or Valley City State Universities on or before June 15, 2009. Application can be made to enter a master's or doctoral graduate program at UND or NDSU.

Program Description:

The monthly stipend will be equal to the current stipend of the host department (not to exceed \$1,333/mo., may be supplemented), and will be available for up to a 24-month period. Use of the assistantship through the summer is expected. At UND enrollment in six credit hours is also expected. A supplement of up to \$2,000 will be available for the host department to offset some of the costs of the awardee's research activities such as conference travel and publication expenses. In the second year, it is expected that the awardee will devote 100% time to coursework and thesis research and have no teaching responsibilities. Students who complete this program at the master's level will be eligible for the ND EPSCoR Doctoral Dissertation Award program. The thesis advisor is required to submit a proposal to the National Science Foundation during the term of the GSRA award.

The application will be evaluated at the host campus by the Graduate Dean, the Principal Research Administrator, the campus ND EPSCoR Co-Project Director, and two members of the Graduate Faculty.

Application Requirements:

Prospective Student Instructions:

1. Submit requisite application materials *directly to the graduate school(s) of the host institution(s) by March 25, 2009.*
2. Submit a cover letter with signature to the campus graduate dean, along with the application materials, stating (1) you are applying for a ND EPSCoR GSRA, (2) the department to which you are applying, (3) include your complete mailing address.
3. Send a COPY of your signed letter, submitted in item 2 above, to the corresponding campus ND EPSCoR office(s):

ND EPSCoR
1735 NDSU Research Park Drive-Suite 142
NDSU Department 4200, PO Box 6050
Fargo, ND 58108-6050

ND EPSCoR
University of North Dakota
Twamley Hall Room 415
264 Centennial Drive Stop 7093
Grand Forks, ND 58202-7093

Host Department Instructions:

Submit a letter of nomination to your campus ND EPSCoR office *by April 13, 2009.* This letter is to be signed by the Department Chair and/or Graduate Director, and it should address the student's qualifications and projected program of study, including a timeline for degree completion. UND departments: letter should also address any provisions made for tuition waivers.

Host Campus Graduate School Instructions:

Submit to your campus ND EPSCoR office a copy of the letter accepting the student into the graduate program *by April 13, 2009.*

Award Announcements and Additional Information:

Award announcements for the 2009-2010 academic year will be made on or about April 20, 2009. Funds are expected to be available after August 16, 2009.

Awards are contingent upon continued funding from the National Science Foundation and the State of North Dakota.

NDSU: Please direct questions to David R. Givers at 701-231-7516 or david.givers@ndsu.edu

UND: Please direct questions to Mark R. Hoffmann at 701-777-2492 or markhoffmann@mail.und.nodak.edu