FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

2021 Application Opens: September 8, 2020

Dissertation & Postdoctoral Application Deadline: December 10, 2020 at 5pm EST
Predoctoral Application Deadline: December 17, 2020 at 5pm EST

Dr. Jorge L. Colón
Professor and Coordinator
Chemistry Graduate Program
University of Puerto Rico – Río Piedras Campus

jorge.colon10@upr.edu
(787)402-2015, Office Facundo Bueso 109
CienciaPR.org – An expert and resource network established in 2006 for anyone interested in science and Puerto Rico (>15,000 members, >50 countries, >485 universities)
Ford Foundation Application Workshop

Dr. Beronda Montgomery (@BerondaM)
Biological Sciences Dissertation Fellow 2000-2001

Dr. Yomaira C. Figueroa (@DrYoFiggy)
Humanities & Social Science Postdoctoral Fellow 2017-2018
FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

Through its Fellowship Programs, the Ford Foundation seeks to increase the diversity of the nation’s college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity, maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.

Predoctoral, Dissertation, and Postdoctoral fellowships will be awarded in a national competition administered by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on behalf of the Ford Foundation.

Eligibility to apply for a Ford fellowship is limited to:

- All U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, and U.S. permanent residents (holders of a Permanent Resident Card), as well as individuals granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program\(^1\), Indigenous individuals exercising rights associated with the Jay Treaty of 1794, political asylees, and refugees, regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation,
- Individuals with evidence of superior academic achievement (such as grade point average, class rank, honors or other designations), and
- Individuals committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level in the U.S.

\(^1\)Eligibility includes individuals with current status under the DACA Program, as well as individuals whose status may have lapsed but who continue to meet all the USCIS guidelines for DACA available [here](https://www.uscis.gov/).
Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs

Predoctoral, Dissertation, and Postdoctoral Awards

- Administered by the Fellowships Office
- The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
- Keck 576
- 500 Fifth ST NW
- Washington, DC 20001
- 202.334.2872
My relation with the Ford Foundation Fellowships

Jorge L. Colón, Ph.D.
Department of Chemistry, UPR-Río Piedras
jorge.colon10@upr.edu

- 1990 - Won the Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Minority Fellowship (declined due to NSF fellowship)
- 9 years (2007-2013, 2016-2017) - Member of the National Academies of Science Physical Sciences & Mathematics Evaluation Panel (Presided in 2011-13)
- 2017 – Keynote Speaker at the Conference of Ford Fellows (held in 2018 due to Hurricane María)
- 2019 – Participated in the Conference of Ford Fellows held in San Juan, Puerto Rico in October
- 2020 – Invited again to evaluation panel (declined)
Ford Foundation Fellowships

• Three different fellowships
  ➢ Predoctoral Fellowship $27k, 3 yr
  ➢ Dissertation Fellowship $28k, 1 yr
  ➢ Postdoctoral Fellowship $50k, 1 yr

• Goals: to increase the diversity of the nation’s college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity, to maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and to increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.
Ford Foundation Fellowships

• You enter a community (the “Ford Family”)

• Longstanding Access to Resources including: [Ford Fellow Regional Liaisons](#) + a network of former Ford Fellows who have volunteered to provide mentoring/support to current and future Fellows.
Ford Fellow Regional Liaisons

Ohio, Pennsylvania (West), and West Virginia

Koritha Mitchell
Institution: Ohio State University
Field: Literature and Performance Studies
E-mail: mitchell.717@osu.edu

Puerto Rico: Mayagüez

Ingrid Yamill Padilla
Institution: University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez
Field: Engineering
E-mail: ingrid.padilla@upr.edu

Puerto Rico: San Juan

Juan Giusti-Cordero
Institution: University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras
Field: Sociology
E-mail: juangicor@gmail.com

Texas (North, East, and South)

Paul Bonin-Rodriguez
Institution: University of Texas, Austin
Field: Literature
E-mail: juangicor@gmail.com
Ford Foundation Fellowships

• The most competitive academic fellowship (approx. 3% acceptance)
• Fellows Annual Conference (Years 1 & 2 covered by the fellowship; you can return as invited participant or workshop facilitator)
• Increased support at the senior level (Ford Foundation Senior Fellowship & Conference)*

* You must be a fellow prior to applying for the Senior Fellowship
Conference of Ford Fellows

A select group of high-achieving scholars from diverse backgrounds

- Networking with peers and elders
- Meetings with university & academic presses
- Career advancement workshops
- Interaction with established & emerging scholars in diverse fields

POLICY AND GLOBAL AFFAIRS

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE
2017 Conference of Ford Fellows
Washington, DC

Reclaiming our Truths: Colonial Legacies and Contemporary Challenges in Transforming the Academy

Friday, May 4, 2018

8:00-9:00 am    Participant Registration
8:00-9:00 am    Breakfast by Discipline
9:00-10:00 am   Opening Ceremony
               Welcome - Dr. H. Ray Gamble, The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine
               Welcome - Dr. Douglas Wood, Ford Foundation
               Welcome –Dr. Vanessa Diaz and Dr. Keisha John, Conference Co-Chairs
               Ford Fellows’ Fund – Dr. Jonathan Yorba

10:00-11:00 am  Keynote Presentation –
                Science, Colonialism, and the Case for Environmental Justice in Vieques
                Dr. Jorge L. Colón, Professor of Chemistry, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

11:00 am -12:30 pm Plenary Presentations on Conference Theme –
                Moderator: Dr. Keisha John
                Presenters:
                Dr. Alani Hicks-Bartlett, A Poetic “Education” in Antillean Identity: Harmony, Contradiction, and the Anti-Colonial Vision of Luis Pales Matos
                Dr. John Morán Gonzalez, State Violence, Representation, and the Production of History in the U.S.-Mexican Borderlands
                Dr. Rosalynn Vega, On Intellectual Disobedience and Constructive Irreverence: Reframing the Classroom for Contentious Times
Science, Colonialism, and the Case for Environmental Justice in Vieques

Jorge L. Colón, Ph.D.
Department of Chemistry
University of Puerto Rico-Río Piedras
jorge.colon10@upr.edu, @JorgeColon
Science, Colonialism, and the Case for Environmental Justice in Vieques

Jorge L. Colón, Ph. D.
Department of Chemistry
University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras
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2019 Conference of Ford Fellows  
San Juan, PR

Empowered Scholarship: Engaging with the World, Connecting with Each Other

Friday, October 4, 2019

8:00-9:15 am  
Participant Registration – San Geronimo Outside Foyer

8:00-9:15 am  
Breakfast – San Cristobal

9:15-10:15 am  
Opening Ceremony – San Geronimo B  
Welcome – Judith Diers, Ford Foundation  
Ford Fellows’ Fund – Jonathan Yorba  
Welcome and Conference Opening – Rima Brusi and Carlos Garza, Conference Co-Chairs

10:15-11:45 am  
Plenary Presentations on Conference Theme – San Geronimo B  
Empowered Scholarship: Engaging with the World, Connecting with Each Other

Moderator: Rima Brusi  
Presenters:  
Asale Angel-Ajani, Activist Scholarship, the Twitter Edition  
Frances Negrón-Muntaner, Decolonial Joy: Theorizing from Public Scholarship  
Jonathan Rosa, Community as a Campus: From “Problems” to Possibilities in Educational Language Learning
2021 PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT
Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowships
For Achieving Excellence in College and University Teaching

ONLINE APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 17, 2020
NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS: MARCH 2021
WWW.NAS.EDU/FORD
FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

2021 Application Opens: September 8, 2020

2021 Dissertation and Postdoctoral application deadlines:

December 10, 2020
5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)

2021 Predoctoral application deadline:

December 17, 2020
5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Supplementary Materials deadline for submitted applications:

January 7, 2021
5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Notification of 2021 awards:
Mid- to late March 2021
PREDOMINANTLY AWARDS

This year, the program will award approximately 70 predoctoral fellowships. These fellowships provide three years of support for individuals engaged in graduate study leading to a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) or Doctor of Science (Sc.D.) degree.

Predoctoral fellowships will be awarded in a national competition administered by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (the National Academies) on behalf of the Ford Foundation. The awards will be made to individuals who, in the judgment of the review panels, have demonstrated superior academic achievement, are committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level, show promise of future achievement as scholars and teachers, and are well prepared to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.

5, maybe 6 in Phys. Sci & Math
Eligibility for **Predoctoral Fellowship**

- U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, U.S. permanent residents, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival Program (DACA) holders, political asylees, & refugees, regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation,
- Evidence of superior academic achievement (such as GPA, class rank, honors, or other designations),
- Individuals committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level,
- Stated commitment to diversity,
- Individuals in an eligible research-based discipline at a **not for profit** U.S. institution of higher education who as of the 2021 fall semester require a minimum of three years of study to complete their Ph.D. or Sc.D. degree,
- Individuals who have not earned a doctoral degree at any time, in any field.
POSITIVE FACTORS FOR SELECTION

• Membership in one or more of the following groups whose underrepresentation in the American professoriate has been severe and longstanding:
  o Alaska Natives (Aleut, Eskimo, or other Indigenous People of Alaska)
  o Black/African Americans
  o Mexican Americans/Chicanas/Chicanos
  o Native American Indians
  o Native Pacific Islanders (Hawaiian/Polynesian/Micronesian)
  o Puerto Ricans
Eligible fields of study (35, among them):

- Biological & Biomedical Sciences
- Ecological, Environmental & Evolutionary Sciences
- Physical Sciences, Mathematics & Computer Science
  - Chemistry
  - Computer Science
  - Mathematics
  - Physics
- Technology
- Engineering
- Social Sciences
- Humanities
- Education

Ineligible fields: Medicine, Law, Social Work, Public Health, Information Science, or other practice-based disciplines (MD / Ph.D., JD / Ph.D. y MFA / Ph.D.)
Predoctoral Specifics

- Three years of support - $27,000/yr for three years
- Must be near or at the beginning of graduate study
- “Verification of Predoctoral Degree Status” form signed by adviser required if already enrolled in Ph.D. program at application
- GRE scores: not required, but recommended* Note: GRE scores will only be accepted from applicants not yet accepted to graduate school
Predoctoral Benefits

• Approximately 60 fellowship awards will be made
• $27,000 stipend per year/three years of support
• Expenses paid to attend at least one Conference of Ford Fellows
• Access to Ford Fellow Liaisons, a network of Ford Fellow volunteers who will provide mentoring and support to current Ford Fellows
Preparing the application

• Start early (give yourself approx. 6-8 weeks to prepare your materials)
• Use all resources provided,
  • Program website - read through all pages
  • Online application components
  • Helpful Resources
  • Application Instructions
• Content and technical help available
• Begin the application via the online portal as you begin to write your essay (this step is extremely time consuming)
• Be consistent in narrative parts of application; avoid the jargon of your field (“simplify” your narratives for those who are reading from different areas of expertise)
• Ask your advisor and at least one other trusted mentor to review your drafts and give you feedback
• You should write 3-5 drafts of each document, ensuring that the final draft is thoroughly proofread
• Do not plagiarize
Letters of Recommendation

• Cultivate your letters of reference; minimum three required; stronger applications have included four letters; five letter maximum

• Add contact information (.edu emails) of letter writers to the portal

• Familiarity with the research and life of the applicant, as well as an understanding of the Ford Fellows Program goals

• Provide letter writers with a draft of your research proposal

• Nothing can kill an application more quickly than a lukewarm recommendation from a recognized scholar

• All letter writers need to be Ph.D. or Ed.D. holders; letters of recommendation from personal friends, clergy, medical doctors, and family members are not appropriate
Letters of Recommendation (cont.)

- Applicant notify recommenders via the application; email sent to recommenders with login and password

- Letters are uploaded by the recommender directly to applicant’s application file

- Receipt of letters may be monitored by the applicant; receipt date is posted by the online application system once submitted.

- Applicant may re-notify recommenders at will*
  * use care not to notify recommenders too often

- Contact potential letter writers to submit letters of recommendation by the Supplementary Materials deadline (1/7/21 at 5 PM EST)

- Confirm the minimum Supplementary Materials required for complete application submission.
Organize & Submit by Deadline

Multiple Deadlines:

• What is your application deadline? **(12/17/20 at 5 PM EST)**
• What is the deadline for your supplemental materials? **(1/7/21)**
• What is the deadline for your letter writers? **(1/7/21)**
  • Use the reminder button for the recommenders (refresh their memory early and often)! But not too often.
Personal Statement

• You need to highlight what you have done and what you WILL do to stand out among other applicants
• Exemplary statements describe how your involvement in the community will support your success and how you will contribute to sustaining community
• Address all of the following that apply:
  ➢ capacity to respond in pedagogically productive ways to the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds
  ➢ sustained personal engagement with communities that are underrepresented in the academy and ability to bring this asset to learning, teaching and scholarship at the university level
  ➢ Likelihood of using the diversity of human experiences as an educational resources in teaching and scholarship

They want to hear about your: Background, Community Efforts, Unique Perspective?, Teaching success, etc. Tell them about it!
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Personal Statement (cont.)

- Membership in one or more of the underrepresented groups whose representation in the American professoriate has been severe and longstanding

- Describe past and ongoing community service efforts including:
  - Tutoring and mentoring students in challenging environments
  - Leadership and organizational skills that benefit a larger community
  - Participation in housing or public service projects
Statement of Previous Research and Scholarly Productivity

- Particularly important in sciences and social sciences
- Mention all undergraduate research experiences – as part of classwork or in activities outside of class (internships, summer research programs, etc.)
- Explain how your experience prepares you for graduate study
- List your Publications and Presentations (from the last five years)
Proposed Plan of Graduate Study and Research

• Describe long-range goals; include realistic timeline to reach goals
• Start early so you can revise; share draft with your adviser, faculty member, or other colleague to review for typos and grammatical errors
• Be concise and specific; do not repeat previous research verbatim – illustrate how you will expand upon previous research with your proposal
• Avoid excessive jargon
Research Statement

• Does your statement highlight the novelty/uniqueness of your work and its potential impact?

• Be **specific** otherwise you leave interpretation to the readers and they can disagree and derail review as you intended.

• Despite short length, include references. The reviewers will comment on this and assess it as demonstration of your knowledge.
Online Application

http://national-academies.org/ford

1. Register for the online application-create login (email address), and password
2. Complete required forms and upload essay documents
3. Each essay should be saved as a separate file (obey page limitations)
4. View all essays and transcripts after upload
5. BE SURE TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION!
FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

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- Individuals with evidence of superior academic achievement (such as grade point average, class rank, honors or other designations), and
- Individuals committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level in the U.S.

In the Spotlight:

Applications to the 2021 competition will be accepted starting in September 2020.

2021 Program Announcements:

- Predoctoral Program Announcement
- Dissertation Program Announcement
- Postdoctoral Program Announcement

A new Directory of Ford Fellows is available.
Evaluation Panels

Each application will be reviewed by two to five reviewers. Not all reviewers will have specific technical expertise; therefore, applications should be written to provide informative detail without jargon and highly technical content.

There are many panels, which meet in two sessions. In my session, there were the following panels meeting:

- Ecology/Environmental Sciences
- Biological Sciences
- Psychology
- Education
- Physical Sciences and Math
- Engineering
Guide for Panelists

Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs

For Achieving Excellence in College and University Teaching

Predoctoral, Dissertation & Postdoctoral Fellowships

March 2016
## Electronic Rating Forms

### Evidence of superior academic achievement
- Educational background (degrees, transcripts)
- Honors and awards

### Personal Statement (background, experience and commitment to the goals of this program)
- Evidence of a capacity to respond to needs of students from diverse backgrounds
- Evidence of a sustained personal engagement with groups under-represented in academe
- Evidence of likelihood of using diversity as a resource in teaching and scholarship

### Research Productivity
- Statement of previous research
- Publications

### Proposed plan
- Quality of proposed academic/research plan
- Evidence of applicant's ability to achieve stated goals
- Appropriateness of proposed institution
- Relationship of plan to applicant's long-range career goals

### Overall assessment of this fellowship application

### Reference letters
- Strength
- Appropriateness of choices
The rating form also includes check boxes and a text box for constructive feedback to the applicant, and a box for comments that panelists may wish to record for their reference only.

**Application could be improved by**
- More focused plan of study
- Better statement of proposed plan
- Clarity in explaining proposed research methodology

**Comments For Applicant** (Provide feedback that will be shared with the applicant.)
257/2000 characters
Personal Statement lacks focus - the applicant should provide more specific examples of diversity engagement.
Previous Research describes an interesting project; however, a more detailed explanation of external contributions would enhance the application.

**Remarks For Your Use Only** (Notes or comments to yourself; these will remain available to you throughout deliberations, but will never be shared with the applicant.)
29/2000 characters
First generation
5 languages

**Evaluation Disposition**
1.0-1.99 - Excellent/top 5%; 2.0-2.99 - Unusually good. Next 10%; 3.0-3.99 - Good - Next 25%; 4.0-4.99 - Average; 5.0 - Below Average

Score: None
Pending - Evaluation is Incomplete
Cannot Evaluate - Return to Fellowships Office Staff
Submit - Evaluation is Complete
### EVALUATION: Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, Poor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Achievements:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education History (degrees, transcripts)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honors and Awards</td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment History (if applicable)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence of a capacity to respond to needs of students from diverse backgrounds</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence of a sustained personal engagement with groups underrepresented in academe</td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence of likelihood of using diversity as a resource in teaching and scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Statement of Previous Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications and Presentations</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of proposed academic/research plan</td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evidence of applicant's ability to achieve stated goals</td>
<td>G</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appropriateness of proposed institution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relationship of plan to applicant's long-range career goals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strength of recommendation letters</td>
<td>VG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriateness of choices</td>
<td>VG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Panel Rating Scale

1.00-1.99  **Excellent/top 5%**
Compares to the very best graduate students encountered during one’s academic career. Panelists should not award this score to more than 5% of applicants. Applicants in this range will likely receive an award or be selected as an alternate.

2.0-2.99  **Very Good/next 10%**
Worthy of an award if an applicant in quality group 1 declines. Applicants in the top tier of this group may receive Honorable Mention.

3.00-3.99  **Good/next 25%**
Would be worthy of support if sufficient funding were available.

4.0-4.99  **Average/next**

5.0  **Below Average**
The figure below shows the average scores assigned to applicants in Quality Groups 1, 2, and 3 over the past three review cycles. Panelists should consider these numbers as a guide when assigning scores.

**Mean Scores by Quality Group (2013-2015)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>QG1</th>
<th>QG2</th>
<th>QG3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1.58</td>
<td>1.93</td>
<td>2.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1.55</td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>1.53</td>
<td>1.84</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Number of Readings Required**

Initially, each application will be read and rated by two panelists, off-site. Based on the average of these two scores, the top 25 percent of the applications will be selected for two to three additional readings each, as time permits in individual panels. This procedure will focus the panelists' time and attention on the most competitive applicants. All “positive factors” as listed in the *Criteria for Selection* should be taken into account at the time scores are assigned. These factors should not be used for additional credit during final deliberations.

**Expected Work Load**

Each panelist is expected to read approximately 20 applications off-site and 10-15 additional files on-site. When possible, panelists should attempt to read the applications in their field of expertise. However, in order that the most competitive applications receive four or five readings each, reviewers will need to read some applications that are outside their area of specialization.
Panelists are asked to assign each application to one of four groups, defined as follows:

- **Quality Group 1**: applicants who, in the judgment of the evaluation panel, are the most competitive applicants and should definitely receive awards.

- **Quality Group 2**: applicants judged to be worthy of Ford Foundation Fellowship support, but of somewhat lower ability than those placed in Quality Group 1. Predoctoral and dissertation applicants in Quality Group 2 who do not receive awards will receive Honorable Mention.

- **Quality Group 3**: arranged alphabetically, applicants judged to be worthy of Ford Foundation Fellowship support but of somewhat lower ability than those placed in Quality Group 2. All predoctoral and dissertation applications in Quality Group 3 will receive Honorable Mention. Quality Group 3 should not include more than 30 percent of the applicants in a panel. (There is no Honorable Mention category for the postdoctoral program.)

- **Quality Group 4**: all eligible applicants judged not to merit placement in Quality Groups 1 through 3.
Review Panel: Insider Tips

What happens in the room:

- Panel composition & why it matters
- Ranking and discussion
- The diversity statement & key to identifying your “advocate at the table”
- Dissertation: Reviewers discuss *in detail* whether truly in “dissertating” phase or too premature
- Postdoc: Reviewers discuss *in detail* “likelihood that the applicant will fully utilize 9 to 12 months of postdoctoral support” - MAKE IT CLEAR in your statement

What this means for you:

- Your narrative must demonstrate the pursuit of scholarly excellence *in service to* building diversity & equity
- Your narrative needs to show that you are committed to the professoriate and to teaching and transforming the university.
- You need to be able to prove that your project is almost at completion OR can be completed during the tenure of the fellowship (1-year).
TENURE

By accepting the award, fellowship recipients affirm that they plan to use a total of three years of support from the Ford predoctoral fellowship. Fellowship recipients must begin the first year of Ford Fellowship tenure on September 1, 2021. After the first year of fellowship tenure, Fellows may choose to defer funding for one or two years but must use all three years of support within the five-year period of eligibility. During Ford Fellowship tenure years, Fellows must remain on tenure full-time for the academic year.
CONDITIONS OF THE FELLOWSHIP

Predoctoral Fellows are required to enroll full-time in a program leading to a Ph.D. or Sc.D. degree in an eligible, research-based (dissertation-required) program of study. Institutional supplementation of the Ford Fellowship stipend is encouraged. However, Fellows may not accept full-time teaching or research appointments, other major fellowships, internships, or similar internal or external awards during fellowship tenure.

Those who accept a predoctoral fellowship must agree to the stipulations in the Terms of Appointment for Ford Foundation Fellows that accompany the award notification. In addition, Fellows must agree to participate in regular updates of the Directory of Ford Fellows, as well as periodic surveys designed to demonstrate the impact of this program.
HOW TO APPLY

Applicants must register online and establish a personal user ID and password. All application materials must be written in English and become the property of the National Academies.

The online application must be submitted by 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST) on December 17, 2020. Supplementary Materials must be uploaded by 5:00 PM EST on January 7, 2021. No extensions or exceptions will be made for these deadlines. Items listed below in bold are required by the application deadline.
ONLINE APPLICATION
STRICTLY ENFORCED DEADLINE
DECEMBER 17, 2020, 5 PM EST

• Contact information, demographic information, education history (name, location, enrolled dates, degree received or currently pursuing, and research field for all undergraduate and graduate institutions attended or currently attending as of fall 2020)
• Employment history, honors, and awards
• Personal statement describing the applicant’s background, experience, and commitment to the goals of the Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs by addressing all of the following that apply:
  □ the applicant’s capacity to respond in pedagogically productive ways to the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds
  □ the applicant’s sustained personal engagement with communities that are underrepresented in the academy and ability to bring this asset to learning, teaching, and scholarship at the college or university level
  □ the applicant’s likelihood of using the diversity of human experience as an educational resource in teaching and scholarship
  □ the applicant’s membership in one or more of the following groups whose underrepresentation in the American professoriate has been severe and longstanding:
    • Alaska Natives (Aleut, Eskimo, or other Indigenous People of Alaska)
    • Black/African Americans
    • Mexican Americans/Chicanas/Chicanos
    • Native American Indians
    • Native Pacific Islanders (Hawaiian/Polynesian/Micronesian)
    • Puerto Ricans

HOW TO APPLY, CONT.

• Statement of previous research and scholarly productivity including a list of publications and presentations
• Proposed plan of graduate study and research and the applicant’s long-range career goals
SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS –
STRITLY ENFORCED DEADLINE
JANUARY 7, 2021, 5 PM EST

The following materials must be uploaded by the applicant:

- Baccalaureate degree transcript(s) showing all undergraduate coursework completed prior to fall 2020, grades, and baccalaureate degree award date.

- If enrolled in a graduate program, graduate transcript(s) showing all graduate coursework completed or in progress as of fall 2020. If an applicant does not have a transcript yet for a program started in fall 2020, an unofficial grade report must still be uploaded to show the coursework in progress.

- For applicants already enrolled in a doctoral program, the National Academies’ Verification of Doctoral Degree Status form signed by the applicant’s graduate Adviser or department Chair confirming that the applicant has a minimum of three years of study and research toward the Ph.D. or Sc.D. remaining as of the 2021-2022 academic year and will be able to use a full three years of fellowship support.

The following materials must be uploaded by letter writers:

- Letters of recommendation (three minimum; five maximum)

Applications with fewer than three letters of recommendation submitted by January 7, 2021, at 5 PM EST will not be reviewed. If the applicant is currently in graduate school, at least one letter should be submitted by a faculty adviser or other faculty member in the applicant’s current department.

1 Eligibility includes individuals with current status under the DACA Program, as well as individuals whose status may have lapsed but who continue to meet all the USCIS guidelines for DACA available here.

2 Individuals must be enrolled full-time and may not accept full-time teaching or research assistantships, other major fellowships, internships, or similar internal or external awards during fellowship tenure.

3 Unofficial transcripts or grade reports are acceptable for the review of applications. If offered a fellowship award, awardees will be required to submit official transcripts to verify the accuracy of the unofficial transcripts or grade reports.
Advance Preparation

Prepare essays in advance and save each in a separate PDF file (maximum 4 MB) so that you are ready to upload these documents. Get feedback from advisers, mentors, and colleagues; review your essays for typos and grammatical errors.

Contact potential letter writers and provide them with a draft of your research proposal. Be certain they agree to upload a letter of recommendation for you and that they can do so by the January 7, 2021, 5 PM EST deadline. The online system will require you to enter the name and e-mail address for each letter writer, and you must use the online notification tool to send them a link to upload their letter to your application. **Requesting four or five letters is recommended to ensure the minimum number of letters is received.**

**Contact Information:**

E-mail:  [FordApplications@nas.edu](mailto:FordApplications@nas.edu)
Phone: 202-334-2872
FORD FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

Through its Fellowship Programs, the Ford Foundation seeks to increase the diversity of the nation's college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity, maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.

Predoctoral, Dissertation, and Postdoctoral fellowships will be awarded in a national competition administered by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on behalf of the Ford Foundation.

Eligibility to apply for a Ford fellowship is limited to:

- All U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, and U.S. permanent residents (holders of a Permanent Resident Card), as well as individuals granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program\(^1\), Indigenous individuals exercising rights associated with the Jay Treaty of 1794, political asylees, and refugees, regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation,
- Individuals with evidence of superior academic achievement (such as grade point average, class rank, honors or other designations), and
- Individuals committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level in the U.S.

\(^1\)Eligibility includes individuals with current status under the DACA Program, as well as individuals whose status may have lapsed but who continue to meet all the USCIS guidelines for DACA available [here](#).

Receipt of the fellowship award is conditioned upon awardees providing satisfactory documentation that they continue to meet the eligibility requirements, as well as satisfying other program requirements.

In the Spotlight:

Applications to the 2021 competition will be accepted starting in September 2020.

2021 Program Announcements:

- [Predoctoral Program Announcement](#)
- [Dissertation Program Announcement](#)
- [Postdoctoral Program Announcement](#)

A new Directory of Ford Fellows is available.

[Ford Foundation Senior Fellowship](#)

The Ford Foundation Senior Fellowship award was established to further engage Ford Fellows in the important work of the...
FORD FOUNDATION PREDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Eligibility to apply for a predoctoral fellowship is limited to:

- All citizens, nationals, and permanent residents (holders of a Permanent Resident Card) of the United States, as well as individuals granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program, regardless of race, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, or sexual orientation,
- Individuals with evidence of superior academic achievement (such as grade point average, class rank, honors, or other designations),
- Individuals committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level,
- Individuals enrolled in or planning to enroll in an eligible research-based (dissertation-required) program leading to a Ph.D. or Sc.D. degree at a non-proprietary (not for profit) U.S. institution of higher education,
- Individuals who as of the 2017 fall semester require a minimum of three years of study to complete their Ph.D./Sc.D. degree, and
- Individuals who have not earned a doctoral degree at any time, in any field.
- Individuals who will be pursuing a doctoral degree in an eligible field of study.

Receipt of the fellowship award is conditioned upon each awardee providing satisfactory documentation that he or she meets the eligibility requirements.

HOW TO APPLY

Follow the steps below to prepare and submit an application for a Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship:

1. Read through the following:
   - Predoctoral Fellowship Fact Sheet
   - Predoctoral Application Instructions
   - Predoctoral Supplementary Materials Requirements and Deadlines

2. Familiarize yourself with Navigating the Online Application.

3. Start an application here.

Applicants should note that it is their responsibility to ensure that all application components—including all supplementary materials—have been entered, uploaded, and submitted by the specified deadlines.

GO BACK TO FORD HOME

POLICY AND GLOBAL AFFAIRS

The National Academies of
SCIENCE • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE
Navigating the Online Application

Follow the step-by-step instructions below:

Registering and Creating a Login and Password
1. Go to the Login Page.
2. Select Fellowship Application.
3. Select Create new login and password.
4. Enter information in the fields provided.
5. Keep a record of your login information in a secure place for future use.

Please refrain from creating multiple login IDs and passwords as it causes confusion for future log in attempts.

Selecting Pages of the Application and Entering Data
1. Locate the page you wish to complete by selecting it from the left navigation panel.
2. Follow the instructions provided for each section.
3. Enter the appropriate information on the page (information can be entered on any page of the application in any order).
4. Save your work on each page.
5. Select Logout when you wish to exit the current session.

Adding and Notifying Recommendation Writers
1. Select Recommender Info from the left navigation panel.
2. Select Click Here to Add an Individual.
3. Enter information for the recommendation writer and click Save.
4. Click Notify to send the recommendation writer an e-mail notification containing their login information and a request to upload a letter on your behalf.
5. Monitor the receipt of your recommendation letter through the online application module. Click Notify Again to send the recommendation writer another notification.

Contact your recommendation writers personally to advise them that they will be receiving an e-mail notification from FordContentSupport@nas.edu and confirm with them that they have received the message once you have sent the notification.

Uploading Application Component Documents
1. Select Uploads in the left navigation panel.
2. Follow the instructions provided for each section.
3. Click Browse, then select and open the file you wish to upload.
4. Click Upload (it may take several moments for the page to refresh).
5. Once the file has been successfully uploaded, select View File to ensure you have uploaded the correct document and it appears as you wish.

Policy and Global Affairs

The National Academies of
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Welcome to NRConline

This website provides applications for the following programs:

- Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs - Predoctoral Competition
- Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs - Postdoctoral Competition
- Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs - Dissertation Competition

Select the appropriate link below:

- Fellowship Application
- Letter of Recommendation
- Host Letter
- Evaluation Panelist
2020 Submission Deadlines

• Dissertation and Postdoctoral Application Submission Deadline:
  - December 10, 2020

• Predoctoral Application Submission Deadline:
  - December 17, 2020

• Supplementary Materials Receipt Deadline:
  - January 7, 2021 (all levels)
Good Luck!

To contact the Fellowship Office:
202-334-2872
FordApplications@nas.edu
http://national-academies.org/ford

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