

This is a list of fellowships for Neuroscience PhD students. This list is not complete, and there are likely to be other fellowships based on scientific discipline, home country (for international students), etc. Please let us know if you discover other fellowships, and we will add them to the list. Also, be aware that deadlines change from year to year, so check the program websites before applying.

For additional opportunities, see the UC Berkeley Graduate Division Guide to Fellowships and Grants: <https://grad.berkeley.edu/news/headlines/guide-to-fellowships-grants/>

Michael Silver
Director, Neuroscience PhD Program

US Federal Programs

National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) This program supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited US institutions. US citizens or permanent residents.

2020 application deadline: October 19 (Life Sciences), October 20 (Computer and Information Science and Engineering, Materials Research, Psychology, STEM Education and Learning), October 21 (Engineering), October 22 (Chemistry), October 25 (Chemistry, Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Astronomy), October 29 (Reference Letter Submission).

<http://nsf.gov/grfp>

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Individual NRSA for PhD Students (F31)

This is an individual fellowship for predoctoral (PhD) students. They are written in close collaboration with your thesis mentor. It is offered through many of the individual institutes at the NIH, including NEI, NIA, NIAAA, NIDCD, NIDA, NIMH, and NINDS, and the proposed project must be dissertation research within the scientific mission of the institute. You must be within your first 6 years of graduate school, have successfully completed your qualifying examination by the time of the award, and be conducting dissertation research. Maximum of three years of support. US citizens or permanent residents. Program Announcement: [PA-20-246](#). There is also a version of this award that aims to support under-represented minority students: [PA-20-251](#)

Application deadlines: April 8, August 8, and December 8.

<https://researchtraining.nih.gov/programs/fellowships/F31>

National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowships

The NDSEG fellowship from the US Department of Defense annually supports graduate students in various fields including “Cognitive, Neural, and Behavioral Sciences”, and “Biomedical Engineering”. Three years of full support.

Application deadline: November 2, 2020

https://ndseg.asee.org/about_ndseg

<http://ndseg.sysplus.com/>

Department of Energy Computational Science Graduate Fellowship

Supports PhD research using high-performance computational or mathematical techniques in a variety of fields, including “Life Sciences”. You must be a US citizen or permanent resident and either in your first year of the PhD program or just applying to graduate school. Up to four years of full support.

Application deadline: January 13, 2021

<http://www.krellinst.org/csgf/>

Graduate Fellowships for STEM Diversity

Graduate fellowships for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics diversity

Supports PhD research in physics, computer science, engineering, and related fields. The fellowship is geared toward women and underrepresented minority students who are US citizens. Up to six years of support. Includes one or two summers of paid internship. You can apply at any stage of your graduate career.

Application deadline: December 15, 2020

<https://stemfellowships.org/>

Department of Defense: Science, Mathematics, And Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship Program

Aims to increase the number of civilian scientists and engineers working at DoD laboratories. Provides full scholarship for PhD training and employment at a DoD laboratory after graduation. You are obligated to work one year in exchange for each year of fellowship support. US citizens only.

Application deadline: December 1, 2020

<https://smartscholarshipprod.service-now.com/smart>

Private Foundations

HHMI Gilliam Fellowship for Advanced Study

Application for the Gilliam Fellowships for Advanced Study is open to eligible pairs comprising thesis advisors and PhD students (“advisor-student pairs”).

Advisor-student pairs from eligible disciplines must be nominated by the HHMI-designated institutional representative (at UC Berkeley, Dean of the Graduate Division), and prospective fellows must be US citizens or permanent residents, from populations excluded from science or alumni of the HHMI EXROP, and be at the appropriate program stage of their PhD training.

Support is for up to three years of dissertation research, typically in years 3-5 of PhD studies. Nominations must therefore be made for students in their second or third year of a PhD program that have advanced to candidacy by September 1, 2021. The advisor-student pairs must be studying scientific problems in biomedical and life science disciplines.

<http://www.hhmi.org/developing-scientists/gilliam-fellowships-advanced-study>

Hertz Foundation

The Hertz Graduate Fellowship is a fellowship for first-year graduate students or students preparing to apply to graduate school for a variety of fields, including “quantitative biology”. 5-year full fellowship. US citizen or permanent resident.

Application deadline: October 23, 2020.

<https://www.hertzfoundation.org/the-fellowship/>

Ford Foundation

Application competition is administered by the National Research Council (NRC) of the National Academy of Sciences. Many fields including life sciences and psychology. Awards are made on the basis of superior academic achievement, commitment to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level. US citizens and permanent residents. Diversity is a major goal of this award.

The Predoctoral Fellowship is a 3-year fellowship for students with > 3 years left in their PhD program.

Application deadline: December 17, 2020.

The Dissertation Fellowship is a 1-year fellowship for students who have advanced to candidacy in a PhD program. **Application deadline:** December 10, 2020.

<http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/fordfellowships/>

Grass Foundation Fellowship Program

This is a specialized fellowship to support a 14-week summer research project at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. Projects are investigator-designed, independent research projects by scientists early in their career (advanced predoctoral or postdoctoral). Supported approaches include neurophysiology, biophysics, integrative neurobiology, neuroethology, neuroanatomy, neuropharmacology, systems neuroscience, cellular and developmental neurobiology, and computational approaches to neural systems. The Foundation also has a longstanding interest in epilepsy-related research.

Application deadline: December 5, 2020.

<https://www.grassfoundation.org/fellowship-overview>

Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds PhD Fellowships

Awards PhD fellowships to outstanding junior scientists with European nationality, aged 27 years or younger, who wish to pursue an ambitious PhD project of approximately three years in basic biomedicine in an internationally leading laboratory, including in the U.S. Support duration: 2-3 years.

Application deadlines: February 1, June 1, October 1.

<http://www.bifonds.de/fellowships-grants/phd-fellowships.html>

Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans

You must be a “New American” (naturalized as a U.S. citizen, green-card holder, refugee, the child of two parents who are both naturalized citizens, etc.: <https://www.pdsoros.org/apply/eligibility>). Supports up to 2 years of graduate study in any field for students who have not begun the third year of the program by the application deadline. This is not science-specific and focuses on creativity, originality, initiative, and sustained accomplishment.

Application deadline: October 29, 2020

<https://www.pdsoros.org/>

Chateaubriand Fellowship Program

The Chateaubriand Fellowship is a grant offered by the Embassy of France in the United States. Every year, it allows doctorate students enrolled in American universities to conduct research in France for 4-9 months.

Application deadline: January 6, 2021

<http://chateaubriand-fellowship.org/>

American Association of University Women

American Dissertation Fellowships support women scholars who are completing dissertations. U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The fellowship must be used for the final year of writing the dissertation. Selection is based on scholarly excellence, the specific project design, and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research. Must have completed all course work and qualifying examinations. All fields of study. Scholars engaged in science, technology, engineering, and math fields or researching gender issues are especially encouraged to apply.

Application deadline: November 1, 2020.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/current-opportunities/american/>

International Fellowships are awarded for graduate study in the United States to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. 1-2 years. Selection is for academic achievement and demonstrated commitment to women and girls.

Application deadline: November 15, 2020.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/current-opportunities/international/>

Porter Physiology Development Fellowship from the American Physiological Society

This program is open to underrepresented minority students who are US citizens or permanent residents. The applicant and advisor must be members of the APS. Applicants should be doing research in the physiological sciences. Students may apply in any year of their PhD program. Provides 1-2 years of NIH-level stipend.

Application deadline: January 15, 2020

https://www.the-aps.org/professional-development/awards/trainees/porter_fellowship?SSO=Y

Josephine de Karman Fellowship Trust

This is a 1-year fellowship of \$25K for students in year 3-4 of their PhD study. Open to many fields. This is a merit award that is on top of normal university support. Open to students of all nationalities.

Application deadline: January 31, 2021

www.dekarman.org

William Orr Dingwall Foundation

Dissertation Fellowship in the Cognitive, Clinical, and Neural Foundations of Language

The amount of the stipend will be \$30,000 for a period of 12 consecutive months (prorated for shorter periods). Awards will be made to graduate students who have completed all requirements for a doctoral degree, with the exception of the dissertation, at an accredited university in the United States.

Application deadline: May 2021

<https://dingwallfoundation.org/neurolinguistics/>

University of California Fellowships

Mentored Research Award

This UC Berkeley fellowship has the following selection criteria: Preference will be given to nominees who have not advanced to candidacy and have not received other major fellowships, experience of situations or conditions which were an impediment to advancing to graduate study, academic research interests focusing on cultural, societal or educational problems as they affect educationally disadvantaged segments of society, and/or evidence of an intention to use the doctoral degree toward serving educationally underrepresented segments of society. US citizens and permanent residents. Provides fees, \$20,000 stipend. This requires a nomination by the program, so if you are interested, please contact Michael Silver.

Application deadline: March 1, 2021

<https://gradapp.berkeley.edu/portal/fellowships?cmd=mentoredres>

University of California Dissertation-Year Fellowship

This fellowship is aimed at students who have already advanced to candidacy and have completed two dissertation chapters or the equivalent. US citizens and permanent residents. Preference will be given to nominees who have not received other major fellowships, evidence of capacity to file the dissertation by the end of the fellowship tenure, experience of situations or conditions which were an impediment to advancing to graduate study, academic research interests focusing on cultural, societal or educational problems as they affect educationally disadvantaged segments of society, and/or evidence of an intention to use the doctoral degree toward serving educationally underrepresented segments of society. US citizens and permanent residents. Provides \$23,000 stipend, fees, and travel allowance. This requires a nomination by the program, so if you are interested, please contact Michael Silver.

Application deadline: March 1, 2021.

<https://gradapp.berkeley.edu/portal/fellowships?cmd=ucdiss>

Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship

This fellowship is for UC Berkeley graduate students in a variety of fields with demonstrated need for financial citizens. For US citizens only. Fellowship covers tuition and an \$18,000 stipend. Students with

the potential to utilize three years of funding will be given priority over students who would only use one year of funding.

Application deadline: January 10, 2021

<https://grad.berkeley.edu/financial/fellowships/>

Peder Sather Grant Program

Scientific research grants by the Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study. Supports projects carried out by researchers at UC Berkeley in collaboration with researchers from nine Norwegian universities. This includes PhD student exchanges for collection and analysis of data and other research activities. Note: This is a research grant, not a PhD fellowship, and your PI is the one to apply. \$10-25K, up to two years of support.

Application deadline: April 8, 2021.

<http://sathercenter.berkeley.edu/peder-sather-grant/>

France Berkeley Fund

Research grants for collaborative research projects between UC Berkeley and scientists at public institutions of higher education in France. Includes all scholarly disciplines. This is not a PhD fellowship, it is seed money for innovative collaborative research projects, exchanges of researchers in laboratories, or workshops or conferences. 12K, one year.

Application deadline: February 1, 2021.

<http://fbf.berkeley.edu>

Graduate Student Parent Grant

This UC Berkeley grant is for registered graduate student parents who live with dependent children and demonstrate financial need. US citizens and permanent residents.

Application deadline: August 2021

<http://grad.berkeley.edu/financial/families/>

Other Small Awards and Travel Awards

Graduate Fellowships Office Conference Travel Grants

Awards for PhD students at Berkeley to attend professional conferences. You must present a paper or poster on your research at the conference you are attending. Grant amounts depend on location of the conference (up to \$600 within California, \$900 elsewhere in North America, \$1,500 outside of North America). Each student is eligible for two grants per graduate career. This is pretty automatic - all you have to do is apply and have your PI write a short letter.

Application deadline: Three weeks before date of travel.

<http://grad.berkeley.edu/resource/conference-travel-grants/>

Graduate Assembly Travel Award

Provides funding to graduate students presenting at conferences taking place outside of the Bay Area. You must be presenting at the conference. A letter of support from your advisor is needed. \$300. Selection is by raffle.

Application deadline: Separate deadlines for fall, spring, and summer conferences – generally a few months prior to travel

<http://grad.berkeley.edu/resource/graduate-assembly-travel-award/>

American Federation for Aging Research

Diana Jacobs Kalman/AFAR Scholarships for Research in the Biology of Aging

Provides \$5000 scholarship for a 3-6 month research project focused on biomedical research in aging. Does not appear to have a nationality requirement.

Application deadline: April 2021

<http://www.afar.org/research/funding/afar-scholarships/>

Company of Biologists, Traveling Fellowships

Up to £2,500 to support travel for collaborative visits to other laboratories. Research must be relevant to one of the following journals: *Development*, *Journal of Cell Science*, *Journal of Experimental Biology*, and *Disease Models & Mechanisms*. Any nationality.

Application deadlines: rolling deadlines

<http://www.biologists.com/travelling-fellowships/>

Society for Neuroscience - Trainee Professional Development Awards

Up to \$1000 for travel to the SFN conference and meeting registration. You must be the first author on an SFN abstract to be eligible.

Application deadline: November 17, 2020 (for virtual conference during the pandemic)

<https://www.sfn.org/Meetings/Meeting-Awards/Trainee-Professional-Development-Award>

Fight for Sight, Summer Student Fellowship

Provides \$2500 for summer research projects for PhD students in eye-related clinical or basic research.

Application deadline: February 15, 2021

<https://fightforsight.org/grants/research-categories/>

DAAD: German Academic Exchange Service

Several short-term research programs for students in US graduate programs for 1-10 months of research in Germany in fields including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Engineering, and other disciplines.

<https://www.daad.org/>