Agenda

- Program Overview
- Fellowships Benefits
- Selection Preferences
- Application Process
- Advice
Program Overview
Ford Foundation Fellowships Program

• Seeks 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.
General Eligibility

- US citizens, nationals, permanent residents, and DACA
- Stated commitment to diversity
- Studying a research-based discipline
- Intend to pursue a career in teaching or research at the post-secondary level
Fields of Study

• PhD or ScD in a research-based field (i.e. dissertation required)
  • Sciences, technology, engineering, mathematics, social sciences, and education
• Ineligible fields include
  • Medicine, law, social work, public health, information science, or any practice-based discipline
Award Types

• Pre-doctoral
• Dissertation
• Postdoctoral

Charlie Corredor
2011 Ford Foundation Fellow
Pre-doctoral Award Benefits

• $24,000 annual stipend
• Three years of support
• Full support to attend Conference of Ford Fellows
• Access to Ford Fellow Regional Liaisons
• Approximately 60 awards per year
Pre-doctoral Award Eligibility

- Undergraduates in senior (graduating) year;
- Individuals who have completed undergraduate study;
- Individuals who have completed some graduate study;
- Individuals enrolled in a PhD program who can fully utilize three years of funding
Dissertation Award Benefits

• $25,000 stipend
• One year of support
• Full support to attend Conference of Ford Fellows
• Access to Ford Fellow Regional Liaisons
• Approximately 36 awards per year
Dissertation Award Eligibility

- Doctoral degree candidacy as defined by this program;
- Have completed all departmental and institutional requirements for their degree, except for writing and defense of the dissertation; and
- Should expect to complete the dissertation during the 2018-2019 academic year, but no later than fall 2019.
Postdoctoral Award Eligibility and Benefits

- Eligibility: Awarded PhD or ScD no earlier than Dec 7, 2010 and no later than Dec 7, 2017
- $45,000 stipend
- One year of support
- Full support to attend Conference of Ford Fellows
- Access to Ford Fellow Regional Liaisons
- Approximately 20 awards per year
Location of work and Proposed Research

• Awards support full-time research at appropriate nonprofit institutions of higher education or research (new host institutions encouraged);

• Applicants designate a host at the proposed fellowship institution;

• Applicants must present a clearly articulated plan of study or research that will further his or her career in higher education
Conference of Ford Fellows

• Networking with peers and “elders”
• Opportunities to identify mentors and peers from across the country
• Paper and poster presentations with supportive comments and critiques from colleagues
• Publication workshops, meetings with university and academic presses
• Strategies to complete the dissertation
• Career advancement workshops
• Proposal, grant-writing, and research funding advice
Application Process
2018 Predoctoral application deadline
December 14, 2017

2018 Dissertation and Postdoctoral application deadlines
December 7, 2017

Supplementary Materials receipt deadline
January 9, 2018
Online Application (http://national-academies.org/ford)

1. Register for the online application
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
Selection Preferences
Positive factors in selection

• Evidence of superior academic achievement;

• Degree of promise of continuing achievement as scholars and teachers;

• Capacity to respond in pedagogically productive ways to the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds.
Positive factors in selection

• Engagement with underrepresented communities;

• Likelihood of using the diversity of human experience as an educational resource in teaching and scholarship;

• Membership in one or more racial/ethnic groups whose underrepresentation in the American professoriate has been severe and longstanding.
Basic Application Components

\{
  Personal statement
  Previous research
  Proposed study
  Letters
\}
Personal Statement (two pages)

• Describe your background and experience, and commitment to the goals of the Ford Foundation Fellowship Programs

• Address as many of the selection preferences as possible

• Describe past and ongoing community service efforts, including:
  • Tutoring and mentoring students in challenging environments
  • Participation in housing or public service projects
  • Leadership and organizational skills that benefit a larger community
    • Campus-based student activities
    • Language teaching
    • Involvement in professional organizations that serve the community
Personal Statement

• Note anything in your background that speaks to your unique perspective:
  • Membership of an underrepresented group in the American professoriate
  • First person or generation in family to achieve college degree or seek advanced degree

• Applicants should also cite the following:
  • Teaching methods and academic interests that are inclusive and sensitive to diversity
  • Personal goals, both long-standing and future-focused, that involve increasing understanding in the college or university setting and are in the broader context
  • Employment that demonstrates a long-standing commitment to diversity and depth of understanding of a multicultural society
  • Efforts to improve access and opportunity for all, particularly in one's local community (neighborhood, place of worship, geographic region)
Statement of Previous Research and Scholarly Productivity (three pages)

Previous Research

• Description of research as part of coursework or outside of class in an internship or summer research program
• Explanation of methods used and expected results of current research

Scholarly Productivity

• List of publications and presentations for the last five years. Items should be listed in the following order:
  • Publications in reverse chronological order
  • Presentations in reverse chronological order
Proposed plan of graduate study, research, and long-range career goals (two pages)

• Description of the chosen area of study and the research issue of interest
• Explanation of why the chosen institution is especially suited to the field of study and the type of study to be undertaken
• Explanation of the relevancy of courses to be taken and how they relate to the proposed plan of study and research
• Description of research methods and theoretical framework to be used
• Explanation of how proposed research relates to a larger community and society as a whole and why study will be useful
• Explanation of long-range career goals
Additional Materials

Annotated bibliography

Dissertation completion plan

Dissertation abstract
Letters of Recommendation

- Three letters required; up to five accepted
- Applicants notify recommenders via the application; letters uploaded directly
- Ask those who know you well and can speak directly to the selection preferences
- Letters should be from individuals in academe who are familiar with your academic research history and potential
Considering Audience

• Each application will be reviewed by two to five reviewers
• Not all reviewers will have specific technical expertise
• Avoid jargon and highly technical content
General Advice

• Work early and often!
• Read the program website thoroughly
• Reach out to Foundation for help – both content and technical
• Seek help from mentors
• Be consistent in narrative aspects
• Cultivate strong letters of recommendation
Contact Information

Ford Foundation Fellowship Office

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