

Welcome to today's webinar:

National Institute of Justice Graduate Research  
Fellowship Programs

The webinar will begin shortly



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# Important information for today's webinar

- Today's webinar will be recorded and archived on the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) website.
- This presentation is being live-captioned for the hearing impaired.
- You may listen to the webinar via phone or your computer. If you are having difficulty hearing the audio via the computer please try using a telephone instead.
- For technical assistance, please use the Chat Box. We will respond to you as soon as possible.
- You may submit questions during the presentation by using the Q&A box and selecting all presenters. All questions will be answered during the Q&A portion of the presentation.

# NIJ's Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF)

## Presenters:

Dr. Marie Garcia, Social Science Analyst in the Justice Systems Research Division, National Institute of Justice

Dr. Gregory Dutton, Physical Scientist in the Office of Investigative and Forensic Sciences, National Institute of Justice



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# National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

## Who we are:

- NIJ is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice

## Our mission:

- Improving knowledge and understanding of crime and justice issues through science



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# NIJ's Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF)

## Program Goal:

- Support doctoral students engaged in research that addresses challenges of crime and justice in the U.S.

## Two Program tracks:

- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS)



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# GRF Solicitations

## Funding opportunity announcements posted annually

U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of Justice Programs  
National Institute of Justice

OMB No. 1121-0329  
Approval Expires 12/31/2018



The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ) is seeking applications for funding innovative doctoral dissertation research in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics that is relevant to providing solutions to better ensure public safety, prevent and control crime, and ensure the fair and impartial administration of criminal justice in the United States. This program furthers the Department's mission by sponsoring research to provide objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to meet the challenges of crime and justice, particularly at the state and local levels.

### Graduate Research Fellowship in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics

#### Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to degree-granting academic institutions in the United States and its territories. To be eligible, the institution must be fully accredited by one of the regional institutional accreditation agencies recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. Under this solicitation, the applicant institution must apply as the sponsoring institution for the doctoral candidate conducting criminal justice-related research in a discipline relevant to NIJ's mission. NIJ may elect to make awards for applications submitted under this solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

#### Deadline

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) prior to submitting an application. All applications are due to be submitted and in receipt of a successful validation message in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on November 21, 2016.

All applicants are encouraged to read this: [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#). For additional information, see [How to Apply](#) in [Section D. Application and Submission Information](#).

#### Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting an application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, or via e-mail to [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). The [Grants.gov](#) Support Hotline hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays.

Applicants that experience unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond their control that prevent them from submitting their application by the deadline must e-mail the NIJ contact identified below **within 24 hours after the application deadline** and request approval to submit their application. Additional information on reporting technical issues is found under "Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues" in the [How to Apply](#) section.

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The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ) is seeking applications for funding innovative doctoral dissertation research in the social and behavioral sciences that is relevant to providing solutions to better ensure public safety, prevent and control crime, and ensure the fair and impartial administration of criminal justice in the United States. This program furthers the Department's mission by sponsoring research to provide objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to meet the challenges of crime and justice, particularly at the state and local levels.

### Graduate Research Fellowship in the Social and Behavioral Sciences

#### Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to degree-granting academic institutions in the United States and its territories. To be eligible, the institution must be fully accredited by one of the regional institutional accreditation agencies recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. Under this solicitation, the applicant institution must apply as the sponsoring institution for the doctoral candidate conducting criminal justice-related research in a discipline relevant to NIJ's mission. NIJ may elect to make awards for applications submitted under this solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

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# GRF STEM Program

## Application requirements:

- Current enrollment in a PhD program in a STEM field
- Proposed thesis project relevant to criminal justice

## Fellowship support:

- A \$35,000 annual student stipend
- Up to \$15,000 annually for tuition, fees, and research expenses
- Up to 3 years of support usable over a 5-year period



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# GRF STEM Program

- The student may be at any stage in their program at the time of application, but fellowship funds are not available until the thesis topic is approved
- 22 fellowships awarded in FY 2016



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# GRF STEM Program

Eligible fields include, but are not limited to:

- Anthropology (Physical)
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Cognitive Science
- Computer Science
- Geoscience
- GIS
- Information Sciences
- Materials Science
- Mathematics
- Pathology
- Physics
- Engineering



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# GRF STEM Program

STEM Fellowship can be renewed for up to 3 years

Annual renewal requires:

- Verification of continued enrollment
- Letter from committee chair confirming adequate progress

Project deliverables:

- Annual progress reports
- Copy of completed thesis



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# Examples of Recent GRF Fellows

**Katherine  
Gettings, PhD**

2011 Fellow

The George  
Washington  
University



Thesis project: “Ancestry/Phenotype  
SNP Analysis & Integration with  
Established Forensic Markers”

Currently: Postdoctoral Fellow at  
NIST

**Christy  
Mancuso**

2014 Fellow

The University  
of Utah



Thesis project: “Fingernails as  
Recorders of Region-of-Origin  
and Travel History”

Currently: Completing PhD

# GRF SBS Program

## Fellowship amount:

- Up to \$32,000 to support final phase of dissertation research

## Fellowship requirements:

- Current enrollment in a PhD program in an SBS discipline
- Completion of required coursework, comprehensive exams, and advancement to candidacy



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# GRF SBS Program

## Project deliverables:

- Bi-annual progress reports
- Official copy of defended dissertation

## FY16 awards:

-7 awards = \$222,415



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# Examples of Recent GRF Fellows

**Lallen  
Johnson**

2010 Fellow

Temple  
University



Dissertation project: “Classifying Drug Markets by Travel Patterns: Testing Reuter and MacCoun’s Typology of Market Violence”

Currently: Assistant Professor at Drexel University

**Naomi Sugie**

2013 Fellow

Princeton  
University



Dissertation project: “Finding Work: A Smartphone Study of Job Searching, Social Contacts, and Wellbeing after Prison”

Currently: Assistant Professor at the University Of California, Irvine



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## SBS FYI's

- Students must be in the final stages of their doctoral research
- The SBS fellowship supports only PhD or other social and behavioral science doctoral students (i.e., EdD)
  - MS, JD, or other terminal degrees are not eligible
- SBS funds are one-time awards
  - Additional funds will not be available



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## GRF STEM & SBS FYI's

- The academic institution is the official applicant
- International students studying in the U.S. may apply through their academic institution
- Academic institutions outside the U.S. are not eligible to apply
- IRB (Institutional Review Board) approval is not required at the time of application



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## GRF STEM & SBS FYI's (cont'd)

- The student must be enrolled in a PhD program at the time of application
- The proposed thesis topic must have relevance to criminal justice
- Fellowship requirements must be met at the time an award is made, not at the time of application



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## GRF STEM & SBS FYI's (cont'd)

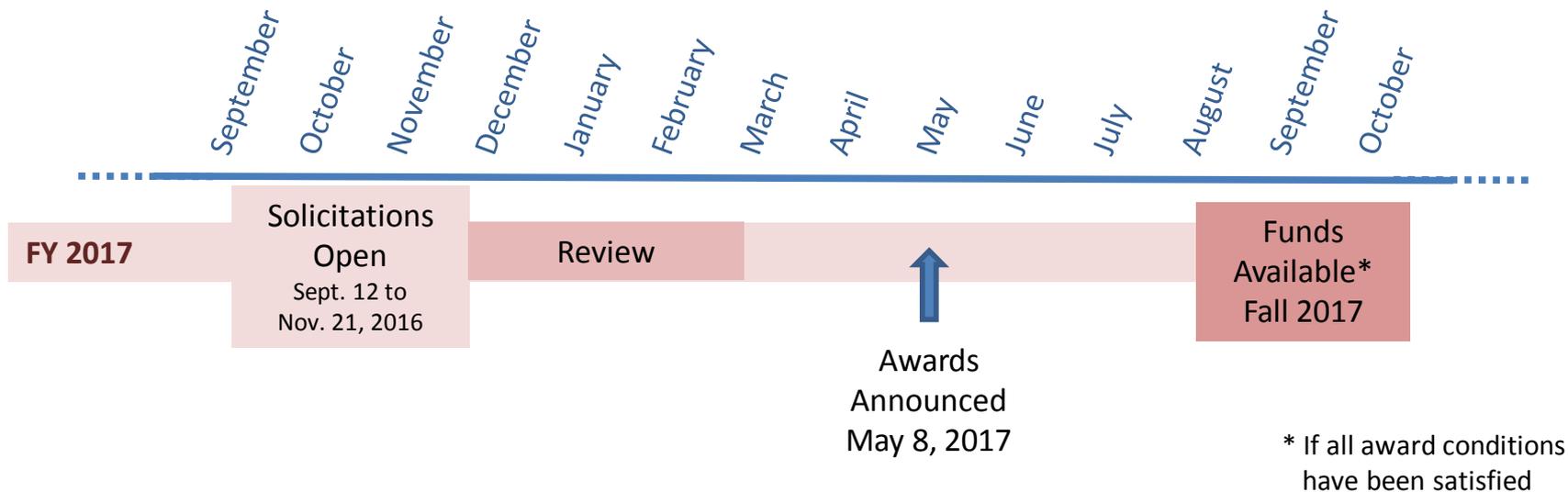
What to do now:

- Review the solicitation for eligibility
- Contact your university grants office
- Start assembling application materials
  1. Write the program narrative
  2. Ask for letter(s) of support
  3. Obtain enrollment verification



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# GRF program timeline



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Solicitations posted once annually (Aug. – Sept.); Awards announced in May

# Learn about NIJ Funding

The screenshot shows the NIJ website with several annotations. A yellow box at the top right says "Go to www.nij.gov & click on FUNDING & AWARDS". A red circle highlights the "FUNDING & AWARDS" dropdown menu, with arrows pointing to "Past Awards" and "Solicitations" boxes. On the left, three boxes point to the "FUNDING" section: "Read the FAQs", "Read active solicitations", and "Read past solicitations for examples". On the right, a yellow box points to an "E-mail Update" link in the "Fiscal Year 2016 Solicitations" section, with the text "Sign up for email updates when solicitations post".

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS  
**NIJ** National Institute of Justice

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NIJ Home Page > Funding

**FUNDING**

- FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
- CURRENT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
- FORTHCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
- EXPIRED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
- HUMAN SUBJECTS AND PRIVACY PROTECTION
- PROPOSAL REVIEW

**AWARDS MADE BY NIJ**

- CURRENT FUNDING
- FORTHCOMING FUNDING
- FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
- LABORATORY ENHANCEMENT FUNDING
- FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS
- EXPIRED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

What NIJ Funds

**Past Awards**

**Solicitations**

**Fiscal Year 2016 Solicitations**

- Watch recorded solicitation webinars.
- Hear from NIJ Director Nancy Rodriguez on fiscal year 2016 solicitation and tips for making your proposal competitive.

**E-mail Update**  
Receive an e-mail whenever NIJ releases a solicitation.

**SITE & PAGE TOOLS**

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www.nij.gov

# Questions?



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## For more information:

GRF webpage: [www.nij.gov/grf](http://www.nij.gov/grf)

For questions about the GRF solicitations, contact:

National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS)  
1-800-851-3420 (TTY: 301-240-6310 for hearing impaired only)

Email: [Grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:Grants@ncjrs.gov)

Web chat: <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>



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