

Northwestern

WEINBERG COLLEGE  
OF ARTS & SCIENCES

## RA vs. Postdoc and Grad Student

Fall 2017 Update

RA Monthly Meeting



## To Name Or Not To Name?

### NIH

- **No names unless** listed as key personnel
- No biosketch unless listed as key personnel
- Rarely, if ever, listed as key personnel
- Progress report – will need Commons ID to report effort on RPPR

### NSF

- If named, include as “Other Personnel” in Fastlane
- No biosketch, but can include information on exceptional qualifications that merit consideration in the evaluation of the proposal (upload to Other Supplementary Documents section)

### OSR recommends we do not name graduate students in InfoEd

- Personnel can change by time grant is awarded
- Avoids need for COI & Commons ID for NIH

### Research Assistantship

- Salary, fringe, tuition all must be charged proportionately
- Rate – FY17: \$31,716, 3% increase thereafter. Fringe 2.8%
- Tuition-- PI rate: \$3,603 per quarter, 5% annual increase

### Hourly pay (in addition to TGS assistantship)

- TGS permission is required if ANY of the following conditions are met:
  - The graduate student's service exceeds 10 hours/week.
  - The graduate student's period of service exceeds one month.
  - The requested compensation is greater than or equal to \$600.
- Via add pay. Slow approval process
- Fringe? No, paid under 60210 – Non-academic Temp, Work Study

### Prizes and Awards

- Pay as salary w/ add pay if currently on NU support (60210)
- If not NU student or if not currently on salary, then 78110, Prizes and Awards

- Types of proposals
  - NIH F31 National Research Service Award (NRSA)
    - Student is PI on grant at time of application
    - stipend, tuition, institutional allowance (travel, research supplies)
  - NSF Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants (DDRI)
    - Social Science, Behavioral & Economic Divisions in NSF
    - Provide research funds, no salary/stipend allowed. Awards = \$10K - \$20K
    - Advisor is PI on grant
  - Research Funds from Foundations
    - Student is usually applicant, and applies directly to sponsor but funds can be processed through NU
      - Wenner Gren – Anthropology fieldwork grants
      - National Geographic Society

- Students usually apply directly
    - NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)
    - Work with NU Office of Fellowships <http://www.northwestern.edu/fellowships/>
  - Award can go through
    - TGS (Example: Mellon/ACLS fellowships)
- OR
- OSR as sponsored project (Example: Korea Foundation Fellowship)
  - How to process?
    - Who is the applicant: student or university?

### NIH

- Named, if relevant experience for the proposal
- No biosketch unless listed as key personnel
- Rarely listed as key personnel
- Progress report – will need Commons ID to report effort on RPPR

### NSF

- If named, include as “Other Personnel” in Fastlane
- No biosketch, but can include information on exceptional qualifications that merit consideration in the evaluation of the proposal (upload to Other Supplementary Documents section)

DOD- similar as NIH, S2S submission

Other agencies?

Northwestern

WEINBERG COLLEGE  
OF ARTS & SCIENCES

POSTDOCS  
on Faculty Research Grants

NU employee, full-time only, minimum one-year appointment

Can be 100% funded from research grants (unlike PIs)

Effort reporting required, if paid by sponsored project

Min postdocs salary at \$47,476, Market salary rate

Full Fringe Benefits (FY18: 25.7% on federal; 27.4% on non-federal)

NIH postdoc stipends on NRSAs: \$47,484-\$58,560 (7+yrs experience)

- Sponsored by outside institution
- Appointment cannot exceed one year (NU employees??)
- Unpaid, supplemental funding allowable – living/travel expenses



- F32, Postdoc is PI at the application stage
- K99
- Research Funds from Foundations
  - Postdoc is usually applicant, and applies directly to sponsor but funds can be processed through NU
  - National Geographic Society

Northwestern

WEINBERG COLLEGE  
OF ARTS & SCIENCES

POSTDOCS  
Fellowships

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs (OPA) is a central resource for postdoctoral training at Northwestern University. The OPA works with Northwestern postdocs, faculty members and administrators to:

- Provide access to professional, career development resources and mentoring.
- Build a strong and interactive postdoctoral community.
- Advise on postdoctoral training policies and guidelines.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) requires that all proposals include a supplementary document of no more than two pages labeled “Data Management Plan.” Requirements for the plan are found on [NSF's website](#).

### ASSISTANCE CREATING A DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

- The [Northwestern University Library](#) offers guidance on creating a data management plan.
- The [Data Management Plan Tool](#) provides step-by-step instructions.
- Examples of data management plans can be found on various university websites, such as [University of Michigan](#).

<http://www.weinberg.northwestern.edu/staff/research-administration/proposal-development/data-management-plan.html>

RCR compliance is managed through the [Office for Research Integrity](#). The goal of RCR training is for anyone involved in research to conduct their work in the most ethical manner possible.

NSF mandates that, at the time of proposal submission, institutions must have a plan in place to provide appropriate RCR training and oversight for any student (graduate or undergraduate) or postdoctoral fellow supported by NSF. NIH also requires RCR training.

RCR Training has 2 parts: Online (CITI Program in Saba) and Instructor-Led

Both CITI and instructor-led training must be completed within one year of initial salary charges for graduate students and postdocs.

**If training is not completed within above timeframe, charges will be removed from the grant.**

Training conducted at outside institutions does not fulfill Northwestern requirements.

Northwestern

WEINBERG COLLEGE  
OF ARTS & SCIENCES

FACILITIES

Northwestern

WEINBERG COLLEGE  
OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Questions?

*Thank you!*

**Points of Contact** for Weinberg Dean's Office:

Reid Wellensiek- Director of Research and Graduate Studies

Ela Klapczynska- Assistant Director of Research Administration

Gina Berardesco- Research Administrator

Shelley Levine- Assistant Director of Graduate Studies