

PhD+ NSF GRFP Summer Workshop Series Agenda

This two-part workshop is intended to introduce applicants to the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) and help you refine the content of your application. Together, we will discuss the submission and review process, deconstruct past applications to identify their strengths and weaknesses, and identify potential story ideas and strategies you can use when crafting your statements and coordinating with your letter writers.

July 14 | 3:30 – 5:00 PM Eastern

Understanding Evaluation & Deconstructing Applications

Prior to the workshop: Watch [this introductory video](#). We will send you 3 previous application proposals to review. During the workshop, we will discuss the strengths and weaknesses of these applications.

Session 1 Schedule:

- Welcome and introductions
- Brief overview of the GRFP, focusing on review criteria
- Panel of past GRFP reviewers
- Deconstructing previous applications
- Review ‘homework’ for session 2.

August 11 | 3:30 – 5:00 PM Eastern

Personal Reflections, Story Ideas, & References

Prior to the workshop: Reflect on your experiences and sketch out 4-6 story ideas for your personal statement. Create a list of potential reference letter writers and the stories and experiences they could highlight for you.

Session 2 Schedule:

- Panel of past applicants
- Personal statement ideas small group workshop
- How to strengthen your application in the coming months
- Open Q&A

Post-Workshop Next Steps for Fall

1. Sign up for the PhD+ Brainsteering NSF GRFP Preparation Course (register [here](#)).
 - To learn more, visit www.brainsteering.org/grfp
 - Your primary advisor or DGS (if you do not yet have an advisor) must also complete [this form](#).
2. Reflect on your experiences and gaps in your current CV.
3. Consider leadership and volunteer opportunities, student groups, and professional relationships that you can build and foster now.
4. Reconnect with your referees, and confirm that they are available and willing to write you a strong letter of recommendation for GRFP.
5. Look at the PhD+ [GRFP Timeline](#) we’ve created (available on Collab), discuss it with your advisor, and make a plan.

Resources and Links

- PhD+ NSF GRFP website: <https://phdplus.virginia.edu/NSF-GRFP>
- PhD+ Collab GRFP Preparation Resources: click [here](#)
- NSF GRFP website: <https://nsfgrfp.org/>

Contact Information

If you have questions about the GRFP or support PhD+ provides students, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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