



Call for Proposal for NSF-supported
RU FAIR ADVANCE Life-Cycle Grants
Cycle IV Deadline: July 25th, 2012

What are Life-Cycle Grants?

The Life-Cycle Grants are available to support Rutgers STEM faculty who are at critical junctures in their professional careers and facing threats to research productivity because of personal life events. The funds help ensure that the pace of research does not diminish, and that scientists can continue their research activities even when their own research or teaching time is seriously limited due to family or life transitions.

How do Life-Cycle grants support faculty?

- Life-Cycle Grants are **flexible** and can be **tailored to your specific needs**.
- Grant awards are anticipated to be up to **\$30,000**.
- The support may be used for **up to one year** from **September 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013** for a variety of academic purposes.

Who is Eligible?

The RU FAIR ADVANCE Life-Cycle Grant Program is available to **women and men faculty**:

- from **any Rutgers campus**
- in a **NSF-supported academic discipline** (See attached list of NSF-supported disciplines and the associated fine print.)
- facing or having recently faced an **unexpected or complicated personal demand on time** that is negatively impacting productivity or the ability to pursue activities that are pertinent to continued career advancement.

Life events/transitions may include, but are not limited to:

- Personal Illness or Disability
- Complications associated with childbirth or adoption
- Events involving spouse, parent, and/or child care (illness, death)
- Combination of major life events

*Preference will be given to candidates whose research and/or proposals help meet RU FAIR/NSF ADVANCE objectives. (See attached list.)

Note: *The RU FAIR Life-Cycle grants program complements the university faculty policies. Please see the Rutgers University Human Resources website (<http://uhr.rutgers.edu/faculty.htm>) for other policies and programs that assist with work-life balance, including leave policies, eldercare, child care and other life events.*

Faculty may apply for varying amounts and academic purposes, which may include, but are not limited to:

- Research Support
- Temporary hourly support for
 - technical support to maintain or complete essential experiments
 - undergraduate student support and/or staff support to assist with timely completion of a paper, preliminary data for a grant, or temporary assistance with duties related to teaching to help free up time for research
- Part-time or seasonal support (i.e. Graduate Assistant, Lab Manager, etc.)
- Professional / Consultant Services
- Conference Travel (domestic only)
- Teaching support
- Supplies

Evaluation

At the end of the award period, awardees will be asked to participate in a **one-hour confidential interview**, with RU FAIR ADVANCE Internal Evaluator. The interview will follow IRB approved protocol and the obtained data will be de-identified to preserve the confidentiality of the participant. The participant will be asked to provide specific examples of how the Life-Cycle grant met its intended goal of assisting a faculty member through a personal or family event that would otherwise have affected career advancement.

What is RU FAIR ADVANCE?

The Rutgers University Office for the Promotion of Women in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics (SciWomen) has been awarded a five-year Institutional Transformation grant for \$3.67 million dollars from the ADVANCE program of the National Science Foundation (NSF). The grant, entitled Rutgers University for Faculty Advancement and Institutional Re-Imagination (RU FAIR), runs from September 1, 2008 - August 31, 2013 and serves the Camden, Newark, and New Brunswick campuses of Rutgers University. The overall goal of the RU FAIR initiative is to remove barriers to recruitment and retention of women faculty, to advocate for greater diversity in senior leadership positions, and to provide higher visibility to the achievements of Rutgers' women faculty in science, social science, engineering, technology, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

The full RU FAIR/NSF ADVANCE proposal and descriptions of the program objectives can be found on the RU FAIR website at <http://sciencewomen.rutgers.edu/rufair>.

For more information, please contact Dr. Natalie Batmanian , RU FAIR ADVANCE Director at natalie.batmanian@sciwomen.rutgers.edu or 732-445-2771 before submitting a proposal.

Application Process

DEADLINE: July 25, 2012

Your application package should include:

1. **A narrative** of no more than **three double-spaced pages** in length addressing five main points:
 - Why this is a critical career juncture?
 - What is the life event you are experiencing and how has it affected your research/teaching progress?
 - How will the requested funds help you through the crisis and enhance your research and/or teaching?
 - What are the costs/consequences of not receiving the funding?
 - If possible, how will your proposed plan help meet RU FAIR/NSF ADVANCE objectives that specifically relate to women faculty in STEM fields. Where appropriate, provide citations to the literature.
2. **current *curriculum vitae***
3. **funding record (current and pending)**
4. **proposed budget**
 - Please use the template from the Rutgers Office of Research and Sponsored Programs <http://orsp.rutgers.edu/> for the proposed budget.
 - It is not necessary to account for Facilities and Administrative costs (F&A).
5. **budget justification**
6. **letter of support** from your department chair is encouraged, but *not required*.

Proposals can be submitted one of two ways:

1. **email** to natalie.batmanian@sciwomen.rutgers.edu
 - in pdf or word document format
 - with subject: **CONFIDENTIAL: Life-Cycle Grant Application**
2. **hard copy**, please mail in a sealed envelope **marked CONFIDENTIAL** to:

Natalie Batmanian, Ph.D.

Director of RU FAIR ADVANCE

Office for the Promotion of Women in Science, Engineering, & Mathematics

RUTCOR Modular Building, Room 122

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

640 Bartholomew Road

Piscataway, NJ 08854

Review Process

- Life-Cycle Grants will be administered through the RU FAIR ADVANCE program at Rutgers University. Applications will be reviewed by the Life-Cycle Grants Committee and by selected experts as needed with confidentiality of Life-Cycle Grant Applicants maintained as secure.
- Proposals approved for funding may require revision of the requested budget to meet University and NSF policies.
- Because critical life events are not anticipated and cannot, in many cases, be planned for in advance, if your situation changes after you have been awarded a Life-Cycle grant, the RU FAIR Life-Cycle Grants Committee will re-evaluate your award and reserves the right to reduce or increase it to an amount appropriate to the new situation.

Confidentiality Statement

Applications will remain confidential within the Life-Cycle Grants Committee. Protecting the privacy of the individuals is a fundamental responsibility of the program. The obligation to safeguard confidences is subject to certain exceptions which are ethically and legally justified because of overriding social considerations. Where an applicant threatens to inflict serious bodily harm to another person and there is reasonable probability that the applicant may carry out the threat, the committee will take reasonable precautions for the protection of the intended victim, including notification of university enforcement authorities and denial of request.

Disclosure Statements:

1. *SciWomen is an office operating within Rutgers University and is subject to all fiscal policies and reporting requirements of the University.*
2. *This will be the last round of RU FAIR ADVANCE Life-Cycle grants that are awarded through ADVANCE funds as the grant period will end on 8/31/2013.*

National Science Foundation's SUPPORTED FIELDS

(Based on required disciplines for fellowship funding)

CHEMISTRY

5230 Analytical
 5250 Bio-inorganic
 5240 Bio-organic
 5260 Biophysical
 9994 Environmental
 5290 Inorganic
 5330 Organic
 5350 Physical
 5331 Polymer
 5370 Theoretical
 5399 Chemistry, other (specify)

COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING (CISE)

7240 Artificial Intelligence
 (including Robotics and Expert Systems)
 7210 Computer Science - Languages and Systems
 7200 Computer Science - Theory
 7270 Computer Systems Design
 (including Signal Processing)
 7230 Database Systems
 7261 Graphics
 7260 Human Computer Interaction
 7250 Information Technology and Organizations
 7290 Networks and Communications
 7280 Scientific Computing
 7220 Software Engineering
 7299 CISE, other (specify)

ENGINEERING

6210 Aeronautical and Aerospace
 6240 Agricultural
 6250 Bioengineering and Biomedical
 6330 Chemical
 6350 Civil
 6388 Computer Engineering
 6390 Electrical and Electronic
 6741 Energy
 6470 Engineering Mechanics
 6532 Engineering Science
 9996 Environmental

MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

7010 Algebra or Number Theory
 7030 Analysis
 7050 Applications of Mathematics
 (including Biometrics and Biostatistics)
 7110 Geometry
 7130 Logic or Foundations of Mathematics
 7140 Operations Research
 7150 Probability and Statistics
 7170 Topology
 7199 Mathematics, other (specify)

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

4999 Astronomy
 4930 Astrophysics
 8040 Atomic and Molecular
 8050 Condensed Matter Physics
 8160 Nuclear
 8180 Optics
 8110 Particle Physics
 8200 Physics of Fluids
 8210 Plasma
 8220 Solid State
 8260 Theoretical Physics
 8299 Physics, other (specify)

PSYCHOLOGY

4125 Cognitive
 4120 Cognitive Neuroscience
 4130 Developmental
 4150 Experimental or Comparative
 4189 Industrial/Organizational
 4155 Neuropsychology
 4165 Perception and Psychophysics
 4170 Personality and Individual Differences
 4158 Physiological
 4162 Quantitative
 4190 Social
 4199 Psychology, other (specify)⁷

6580 Industrial
 6476 Materials
 6620 Mechanical
 6660 Metallurgical
 6740 Nuclear
 6245 Ocean
 6716 Petroleum
 6480 Polymer
 6585 Systems Engineering
 6799 Engineering, other (specify)

GEOSCIENCES

5710 Aeronomy
 5720 Atmospheric Chemistry
 5750 Chemical Oceanography
 5770 Climate Dynamics
 5740 Geochemistry
 5780 Geology
 5800 Geophysics
 5810 Hydrologic Sciences
 5820 Large-scale Dynamics Meteorology
 5830 Magnetospheric Physics
 5840 Marine Geology and Geophysics
 5850 Mesoscale Dynamic Meteorology
 5870 Paleoclimate
 5860 Paleontology
 5880 Physical Meteorology
 7799 Physical Oceanography
 5890 Solar-Terrestrial
 5889 Geosciences, other (specify)

LIFE SCIENCES

0399 Agriculture⁵
 0140 Agronomy⁵
 4510 Anatomy⁶
 4530 Animal Behavior
 4531 Animal Science⁵
 0999 Biochemistry⁶
 1870 Biological Oceanography
 1899 Biology
 1299 Biophysics
 1599 Botany (including Plant Physiology)
 1820 Cell Biology⁶
 1860 Computational Biology
 1840 Developmental Biology
 1830 Ecology
 4570 Entomology

SOCIAL SCIENCES

0693 Biological Anthropology
 0695 Cultural Anthropology⁸
 0694 Linguistic Anthropology
 0696 Medical Anthropology
 0697 Physical Anthropology
 0699 Anthropology, other (specify)
 0610 Archaeology⁸
 9818 Demography
 8599 Economics
 (Business Administration not eligible)
 8799 Geography
 9099 History of Science
 9499 International Relations⁵
 9299 Linguistics
 9098 Philosophy of Science
 9399 Political Science
 9799 Public Policy⁵
 9599 Sociology (Social Work not eligible)
 9699 Urban and Regional Planning⁵
 9899 Social Sciences, other (specify)⁸

Note: For further clarification of research areas supported by the NSF, see the *National Science Foundation Guide to Programs*

(<http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf0203>).

⁵ Warning: NSF Fellowships are awarded only for study leading to research-based master's or doctoral degrees. Practice-oriented master's programs are not eligible for support in this program. PhD programs must be science-based.

⁶ Warning: Research with disease-related goals is not eligible for support by NSF. Applicants in this field will be judged ineligible if their Proposed Plan of Research has disease-related goals and/or is insufficiently focused on basic research questions.

⁷ Warning: Clinical and counseling psychology are generally not supported in this program; NSF Fellowship applicants in this field will be judged ineligible if their Proposed Plan of Research focuses on mental disease, abnormality or malfunction.

⁸ Warning: NSF Fellowship Applicants in these fields may be judged ineligible if the Proposed Plan of Research does not demonstrate a scientific approach.

9992	Environmental Sciences
1850	Evolutionary Biology
4590	Fish and Wildlife ⁵
0250	Forestry ⁵
2499	Genetics ⁶
0300	Horticulture ⁵
3293	Immunology ⁶
1874	Marine Biology
3299	Microbiology ⁶
1880	Molecular Biology ⁶
1829	Neurosciences ⁶
1890	Nutrition ⁵
2970	Pharmacology ⁶
3899	Physiology ⁶
1545	Plant Pathology
4540	Soil Science
1822	Structural Biology
3290	Virology ⁶
4699	Zoology
2299	Life Sciences, other (specify) ⁶

RU FAIR / NSF ADVANCE Initiatives

The RU FAIR ADVANCE grant supports five major initiatives to increase the participation and advancement of faculty women in science, engineering, and mathematics on all three Rutgers campuses.

The five initiatives are:

- ***Recruitment and Retention***: Seeks to increase the number of women, especially minority women, on the Rutgers STEM faculty.
- ***Communication***: Focuses on communications across campuses, centers, and departments.
- ***Networking and Liaison***: Seeks to build collaborations between Rutgers STEM faculty and the Rutgers Institute for Women's Leadership (IWL) through such mechanisms as interdisciplinary mini-grants.
- ***Visibility***: Promotes Rutgers women STEM faculty through expanded faculty profiles and personal stories on the SciWomen website, sponsorship of a lecture series of prominent women faculty, targeted nominations of distinguished faculty members and outstanding postdoctoral associates for awards, and solicitations of press coverage for Rutgers search.
- ***Work/Life Balance and Family***: Seeks to bolster the resources available for dual-care families and for families with children.