The NRC Associateship Programs

The National Research Council (NRC) administers competitive graduate postdoctoral and senior research awards on behalf of 26 U.S. government research agencies and affiliated institutions with facilities at over 100 locations throughout the U.S. and abroad. Awardees have the opportunity to:

- conduct independent research in an area compatible with the interests of the sponsoring laboratory
- devote full-time effort to research and publication
- access the excellent and often unique facilities of the federal research enterprise
- collaborate with leading scientists and engineers at federal research laboratories and affiliated institutions

Eligibility

Awards are available for scientists and engineers at all stages of their career. Postdoctoral applicants should hold, or anticipate receiving, an earned doctorate in science or engineering. Most awards are open to foreign nationals as well as to U.S. citizens.

The Application Process

Applications for awards are reviewed by panels of distinguished scientists and engineers representing the disciplines of Chemistry; Earth, Atmospheric, and Space Sciences; Engineering, Applied Science, and Mathematics; Life Sciences; and Physics. Applications are reviewed four times each year.

Detailed program information, including application deadlines and instructions on how to apply, is available at the Associateship Programs Web site:

www.national-academies.org/rap

Receiving an NRC Research Associate Award

Graduate and postdoctoral awards are for 12 months with renewal for a second or third year determined by evaluation of the Associate’s progress. Senior research awards may be for shorter periods of time. Summer Faculty awards are for 8-14 weeks, renewable for up to 3 successive summers.

Stipend and Benefits

Research Associates receive annual stipends ranging from $42,000 to $75,000 for recent graduates and proportionally higher for Senior Associates. In addition, the NRC provides health insurance, relocation benefits and an allowance for professional travel. The host laboratory provides research facilities, equipment and funding for supplies to support the Associate’s research.

How to Apply

- Find research opportunities that match your interests by exploring our Web site:
  www.national-academies.org/rap
- Contact prospective Research Adviser(s) to discuss your interests. Adviser contact information can be found on the Web site. Note that you may apply for up to three laboratories with one application.
- Follow application instructions carefully. Applications must be submitted electronically. Supporting documents should be sent to:

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
National Research Council
Fellowship Programs Office
Research Associateship Program
500 Fifth Street NW, Keck 500, Washington, DC 20001
Email: rap@nas.edu • Tel: 202-334-2760 • Fax: 202-334-2759