



REQUEST FOR STUDENT APPLICATIONS
Graduate Student Cyberinfrastructure Assistantship Program
Issued: March 9, 2021
Due to ND EPSCoR: 5pm, April 8, 2021
Award Start Date: August 16, 2021

NDSU Announcement ONLY

TO: NDSU Graduate Students in the Sciences, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics
FROM: ND EPSCoR/ND-ACES
RE: Cyberinfrastructure (CI) Assistantship Program Announcement

Purpose:

ND EPSCoR's ND-ACES Graduate Student CI Assistantship program is designed to (1) increase student understanding of advanced research computing in hardware and software as it applies to their discipline; (2) provide additional support to faculty in the Center for Cellular Biointerfaces in Science and Engineering (CCBSE); and (3) provide student/faculty CI training at all ND EPSCoR-participating institutions on potential CI uses/benefits.

Description of the Program:

Support will be available for one academic year (August 16, 2021 – May 15, 2022) for one-half (10 hours per week) of a full-time graduate student assistantship in the NDSU Center for Computationally Assisted Science and Technology (CCAST). For these ND-ACES supported 10 hours per week, the student must work within the CCAST, under the direction of the Center's staff.

It is anticipated that one (1) Graduate Student CI Assistantship will be awarded at NDSU. The CCAST Executive Director, the CCAST Research Facilitator, and the ND EPSCoR STEM Manager will serve as the review panel to evaluate the applications.

The assistantship components include:

- To be eligible the student must be on a full-time assistantship (20 hours/week)
 - ND EPSCoR/ND-ACES contribution (10 hours/week): \$875/month for a Master's student and \$1,100/month for a Doctoral student
 - Major advisor/department contribution (10 hours/week): at least one-half the prescribed departmental level for a full-time assistantship, which may vary from the ND EPSCoR/ND-ACES rate
- In addition to the student stipend and related fringe benefits, the ND-ACES portion of this assistantship includes \$750 for travel, \$500 for materials and supplies, \$250 for publications/printing/dissemination, and related F&A.

Eligibility Requirements:

NDSU graduate students, who:

- have been accepted by the Graduate School;
- are majoring in a science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM) discipline; and
- are in good academic standing.

Application Requirements:

Graduate student's application must include:

- a letter of endorsement from their major advisor, stating:
 - the major advisor/academic department's commitment to the other one-half (10 hours per week) of the graduate student assistantship and
 - how the CI assistantship will be used to further the student's thesis or dissertation work, including a statement that student is in good standing academically, and that the student will be able to handle the split commitment between the requirements of their research and CI assistantships.
- a 3-page double-spaced essay, by the student, of the past (up to 1 page), present (up to 1 page), and future (up to 1 page) importance of CI to the research within their STEM discipline.

Evaluation Criteria:

- Credentials of the student
- Quality of Essay
- Priority given to:
 - members of an underrepresented or underserved group, as defined by NSF
 - students who have not held a prior CI assistantship with ND EPSCoR

Application Submittal Checklist (Submit electronically):

1. **Cover Page:** Available at <https://www.ndepscor.ndus.edu/fileadmin/ndus/ndepscor/CI/NDSUCICover-GRAs.pdf>
2. **Essay:** Described above. Double spaced with 1-inch margins.
3. **Student's credentials:** a 2-page NSF-style Biosketch.
4. **NSF-style budget template:** Available at https://www.ndepscor.ndus.edu/fileadmin/ndus/ndepscor/documents/ND_ACES_template_budget.pdf
5. **Budget justification.**
6. **Copy of the major advisor's endorsement letter:** Described above.

Electronic Submissions:

April 8, 2021 (5pm): NDSU graduate student deadline to submit completed application to ND EPSCoR ndepscor@ndus.edu via e-mail attachment. Please indicate subject line as "CI Assistantship Application – NDSU Campus."

NOTICE: ND EPSCoR may refuse to review any application that does not comply with the checklist.

Award Announcements and Additional Information:

Awards will be announced on or about April 22, 2021, and funds are expected to be available on or about August 16, 2021.

Awards are contingent upon availability of funds from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the ND EPSCoR State Office. These assistantships are provided in conjunction with ND EPSCoR's Track-1 cooperative agreement with the NSF (ND-ACES), which provides for outreach activities throughout North Dakota.

Please direct questions:

- Related to the assistantship to Khang Hoang, Research Facilitator, NDSU CCAST at: khang.hoang@ndsu.edu
- Related to the application to Shireen Alemadi, STEM Manager, ND EPSCoR State Office at: shireen.alemadi@ndus.edu

For information about ND EPSCoR and other student funding opportunities, please visit the web at <https://www.ndepscor.ndus.edu/for-students/funding-opportunities-students/>