

Purpose:

This program helps increase opportunities for students from the North Dakota University System baccalaureate universities and tribal colleges in North Dakota to pursue graduate degrees at North Dakota's two research universities in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Eligibility:

Applicants who have completed their baccalaureate degree must plan to enter a master's or doctoral graduate program at NDSU or UND in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics field. Priority status will be given to those applicants who either a) have not yet started their graduate courses, or b) who are in the first semester of their graduate program AND who have: graduated with a bachelor's degree from a ND University System Primarily Undergraduate Institution (PUI: Dickinson, Mayville, Minot, or Valley City State Universities); graduated from a tribal college (TC) that holds membership in the ND Association of Tribal Colleges; or, participated in ND EPSCoR's Nurturing American Tribal Undergraduate Research and Education (NATURE) program at some time during their high school or undergraduate careers. Additionally, applications may be considered for awards to students in the final semester of their baccalaureate degree program at a PUI or TC, who demonstrate exemplary academic, research and outreach capabilities and who have already been accepted into a master's or doctoral graduate program at NDSU or UND in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics field.

Program Description:

The ND EPSCoR monthly stipend is \$1,620/month for up to a 24-month period, with the expectation that time will be spent both in research and in mentoring undergraduate students (especially those from a TC or PUI). The monthly stipend for GSRA recipients who have completed their baccalaureate degree program is \$1,620/month for up to a 24-month period; however, the applicant's host department may augment the ND EPSCoR award with a one-quarter (1/4)-time GRA or one-quarter (1/4)-time GTA for one semester per year. However, the annual rate of support cannot exceed that of a one-half (1/2)-time GRA or one-half (1/2)-time GTA for the year as set by the Graduate School at NDSU or UND. Use of the assistantship through the summer is also expected. *Additionally, a UND awardee is expected to be enrolled in six credit hours.* Applicants who enter the program early, while finishing their baccalaureate degree, may be awarded \$500/month for up to four months (August 16 – December 15, 2018 or January 16 – May 15, 2019) provided a supportive faculty mentor/sponsor can be found.

ND EPSCoR provides the host department up to \$2,000 to help offset the cost of an awardee's graduate research activities, including conference travel and journal publication. Participation in this program does not affect eligibility for the ND EPSCoR Doctoral Dissertation Award program. The thesis or dissertation advisor is required to submit a proposal to the National Science Foundation during the term of the GSRA award. Applicants who enter the program early and who are finishing their baccalaureate program during the spring semester, may receive up to an additional \$500 to help offset travel to the ND EPSCoR Annual Conference.

The graduate application is normally evaluated by the Graduate Dean, the host department, the campus ND EPSCoR leadership. Applications for the final semester of undergraduate work will be evaluated by the ND EPSCoR Tribal Colleges Liaison Manager and other ND EPSCoR leadership.

Application Requirements:

<p>PROSPECTIVE STUDENT Instructions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit <i>directly to Graduate school(s) of the host institution(s)</i>: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Requisite GRADUATE SCHOOL APPLICATION materials. b. Sign and mail a LETTER addressed to the campus graduate dean (<i>No later than March 27, 2018</i>) stating: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. You are applying for a ND EPSCoR GSRA award; 2. List the department in which you want to enroll and the faculty advisor; 3. Include your contact information: mailing address, telephone number, and email address; 4. State what institution you are graduating from, the year and date; and your major c. Please include a paragraph in your application stating how you believe your chosen field of graduate study might be related to ND EPSCoR's 2014-2019 National Science Foundation's Track-1 award involving studies of the impacts of regional climate change, whether physical or social, and/or the growing worldwide recognition of the need to transition away from fossil-based petrochemicals and their materials to more sustainable platforms. 2. Send COPIES of the above signed LETTER to: <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Department Chair of the institution in which you want to enroll, AND b. The corresponding ND EPSCoR office(s) of the university to which you are applying AND, IF APPLICABLE, documentation of <i>tribal enrolled membership</i>. </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top; border: none;"> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">(NDSU)</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">(UND)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">NDSU EPSCoR</td> <td style="text-align: center;">UND EPSCoR</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1805 NDSU Research Pk Dr; Suite 102</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Twamley Hall Room 101</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Dept 4200, PO Box 6050</td> <td style="text-align: center;">264 Centennial Drive</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Fargo, ND 58108-6050</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Grand Forks, ND 58202-7093</td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Department Chair of the institution in which you want to enroll, AND b. The corresponding ND EPSCoR office(s) of the university to which you are applying AND, IF APPLICABLE, documentation of <i>tribal enrolled membership</i>. 	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">(NDSU)</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">(UND)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">NDSU EPSCoR</td> <td style="text-align: center;">UND EPSCoR</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1805 NDSU Research Pk Dr; Suite 102</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Twamley Hall Room 101</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Dept 4200, PO Box 6050</td> <td style="text-align: center;">264 Centennial Drive</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Fargo, ND 58108-6050</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Grand Forks, ND 58202-7093</td> </tr> </table>	(NDSU)	(UND)	NDSU EPSCoR	UND EPSCoR	1805 NDSU Research Pk Dr; Suite 102	Twamley Hall Room 101	Dept 4200, PO Box 6050	264 Centennial Drive	Fargo, ND 58108-6050	Grand Forks, ND 58202-7093
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Department Chair of the institution in which you want to enroll, AND b. The corresponding ND EPSCoR office(s) of the university to which you are applying AND, IF APPLICABLE, documentation of <i>tribal enrolled membership</i>. 	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">(NDSU)</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">(UND)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">NDSU EPSCoR</td> <td style="text-align: center;">UND EPSCoR</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">1805 NDSU Research Pk Dr; Suite 102</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Twamley Hall Room 101</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Dept 4200, PO Box 6050</td> <td style="text-align: center;">264 Centennial Drive</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Fargo, ND 58108-6050</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Grand Forks, ND 58202-7093</td> </tr> </table>	(NDSU)	(UND)	NDSU EPSCoR	UND EPSCoR	1805 NDSU Research Pk Dr; Suite 102	Twamley Hall Room 101	Dept 4200, PO Box 6050	264 Centennial Drive	Fargo, ND 58108-6050	Grand Forks, ND 58202-7093	
(NDSU)	(UND)											
NDSU EPSCoR	UND EPSCoR											
1805 NDSU Research Pk Dr; Suite 102	Twamley Hall Room 101											
Dept 4200, PO Box 6050	264 Centennial Drive											
Fargo, ND 58108-6050	Grand Forks, ND 58202-7093											
<p>HOST GRADUATE SCHOOL Instructions:</p> <p>Submit to your campus ND EPSCoR office <i>no later than March 27, 2018</i>, a copy of the letter of notification that the student has been accepted into the graduate program.</p>												
<p>HOST DEPARTMENT Instructions:</p> <p>Submit a letter of nomination to your campus ND EPSCoR office as soon as your department has accepted the student and no later than <i>March 27, 2018</i>. The nomination letter, signed by the department chair and/or department graduate director, should address: 1) the student's qualifications; 2) an abbreviated, projected program of study; 3) a timeline for degree completion; and 4) provisions, if any, for student tuition grant assistance or waivers. <i>The ND EPSCoR GSRA award does not include waivers or other tuition assistance. Requests for tuition waivers follow the normal Graduate School procedures. Awardees should confirm acceptance of the GSRA along with their beginning employment date with ND EPSCoR.</i></p>												

Award Announcements and Additional Information:

Application can be made to enter either a master's or doctoral graduate program. Award announcements for the 2018-2019 academic year will be made on or about April 12, 2018. Funds are expected to be available after August 16, 2018. Awards are contingent upon continued funding from the National Science Foundation and the State of North Dakota.

NDSU: Please direct questions to Jean Ostrom-Blonigen, Project Administrator, at 701.231.7516 or jean.ostrom@ndsu.edu

UND: Please direct questions to Barry Milavetz, Associate Project Director, at 701.777.4280 or barry.milavetz@und.edu