

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL

offers for the academic year

1939-40

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH TRAINING FELLOWSHIPS

PRE-DOCTORAL FIELD FELLOWSHIPS

GRANTS-IN-AID OF RESEARCH

in the

SOCIAL SCIENCES

including

Economics; Social, Economic and Political History; Political Science; Social Psychology;
Sociology; Cultural Anthropology; Statistics; and Social
Aspects of Related Disciplines*

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Secretary for Fellowships and Grants-in-Aid

LAURA BARRETT

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*The attention of applicants in *physical anthropology* and *physiological psychology* is called to the Grants-in-Aid in the Biological Sciences offered by the National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C.

Fellowships

A major purpose of the Council since its beginning in 1923 has been to assist in the development of an adequate number of well trained research workers in the field of the social sciences. As a means of furthering this purpose, a series of post-doctoral fellowships has been awarded annually since 1925. Recent reconsideration of research-training needs not only has confirmed the Council's belief in the utility of its post-doctoral program but also has led to the conclusion that additional financial support at earlier training stages is required for the assurance of competent research personnel.

While universities and colleges have been able to grant a large number of scholarships and fellowships, nearly all awards have been restricted in use to formal study in a given institution and only a very small number have provided for work beyond the doctorate. It is in view of these limitations on the use of existing graduate awards by academic institutions that the Council has framed its fellowship program so as to include pre-doctoral fellowships for field training, as well as the post-doctoral training fellowships previously supported.

Pre-doctoral fellowships for graduate study (first year) will not be offered for 1939-40.

A brief statement of the objectives and minimum requirements of the awards follows:

I. Pre-Doctoral Field Fellowships:

These fellowships are open to men and women, citizens of the United States or Canada, who are candidates for the Ph.D. degree, and who will have completed prior to the end of the academic year 1938-39 all courses and examinations for which they are eligible before completion of the thesis. The fellowships are not open to persons who will be over the age of 30 on July 1, 1939, or who plan to receive the Ph.D. before the expiration of the period of appointment for which application is made.

The purpose of these awards is to supplement formal graduate study by opportunities for field work which will assure first-hand familiarity with the data of social science in the making. The candidate should have decided on the general area in which he wishes to prepare his thesis and carry on later research, but it is not necessary that the exact thesis subject should have been selected before application is made. While it is taken for granted that programs at this level will be closely correlated with the applicants' Ph.D. theses plans, the aim of these awards will not be to aid in finishing theses or to assist in the collection of data as such, but rather to emphasize the opportunities for obtaining realistic bases for the dissertation and subsequent research.

It is anticipated that many of the approved programs will call for a year's work in close association with public and private agencies where basic material for research can be observed directly. For illustration, a student of diplomatic history might wish to familiarize himself with selected problems and operations of the Department of State; an economist might find his interest best served by what might be called an "internship" in a banking institution; a political scientist or sociologist specializing in the relations between government and business would have many opportunities for an experiential program in Washington. In offering these illustrations there is no desire to limit the proposals of candidates to programs of similar pattern. Different areas of specialization as well as varying individual needs will naturally lead to diversified proposals. The type of program approved in any given case will depend on the candidate's previous training and on his research objectives, although in each case the experiential aspect of the plan submitted will be a major consideration in the process of selection. **Plans for field training involving foreign travel are not ordinarily considered to be necessary at the level for which these fellowships are designed; it is only under the most unusual circumstances that applications of this type will be favored.**

Every effort will be made to assist successful candidates in choosing a proper location for field experience, in planning the year's activities, and in securing the active cooperation of government and private officials when necessary for the completion of an approved program. All applicants, however, should submit programs carefully worked out, preferably after consultation with their graduate instructors and others whose cooperation may be required, in such form as to assure their feasibility and to show their relation to later research plans.

Appointments will be for not less than nine nor more than twelve months. The basic stipend attached to these fellowships is \$1800 for a period of twelve months, with the possibility of additional allowances for travel and other exceptional expenses when necessary. No applications for reappointment at this level will be considered.

The closing date for the receipt of applications for 1939-40 on blanks to be secured from the Fellowship Secretary is February 1, 1939. Awards will be announced April 15, 1939. *In making initial inquiry, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT age, academic qualifications and tentative field plans be specifically indicated.* It is requested that application blanks be secured well in advance of February 1, 1939, so that there may be ample time to fill out and return them before that date.

II. Post-Doctoral Research Training Fellowships:

These fellowships are open to men and women, citizens of the United States or Canada, who possess the Ph.D. degree or its equivalent in training and experience at the time of application, or give assurance that the Ph.D. will be received before February 15, 1939, and who, ordinarily, are not over 35 years of age.

The primary purpose of these fellowships is to broaden the research training and equipment of promising young social scientists, not to facilitate the completion of research projects or the continuation of investigations undertaken as doctoral dissertations. **Candidates proposing studies of the latter types may, therefore, expect to have their requests denied without reference to their professional standing or the merits of the project.** Programs of study submitted should provide either for training of an interdisciplinary nature, for advanced training within the applicant's field of specialization, or for field work or other experiential training intended to supplement more formal academic preparation for research.

The choice of place of study is left to the Fellow, subject to the approval of the Fellowship Committee. It is required that, before entering upon the fellowships, Fellows planning to study in non-English speaking countries be able to read and speak the languages of the countries concerned.

The basic stipend for a period of twelve months is \$1,800 for single Fellows and \$2,500 for married Fellows. Supplementary allowances toward the support of dependents, as well as to defray the necessary traveling expenses of the Fellow (but not of members of his family), vary according to individual requirements. During the period of appointment, the Fellow is expected to devote full time to his program of study and not to carry on any other work without the consent of the Fellowship Committee.

Awards are usually for twelve months, but may be made for any period not exceeding two years. Renewals or extensions may be granted in exceptional cases.

The closing date for receipt of applications for 1939-40 on blanks to be secured from the Fellowship Secretary is February 1, 1939. It is requested that application blanks be secured well in advance of February 1, 1939, so that there may be ample time to fill out and return them before that date.

Awards will be announced April 15, 1939.

In making initial inquiry, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT age, academic qualifications, and proposed program of study, be specifically indicated.

Grants-in-Aid of Research

These grants are available to mature scholars, without reference to age, whose capacity for productive research has been effectively demonstrated by published work. They are not open to candidates for a degree. They are offered by the Council especially with a view to assisting members of the staffs of institutions which cannot at present provide adequate funds for social science research, and are designed to aid in completing rather than in initiating projects.

The purpose for which the grants may be expended include the investigator's living expenses while in the field; travel involved in the investigation; stenographic, clerical or statistical assistance; printing, stationery, and photostating; but ordinarily they may not be used for travel to attend scientific meetings, or to purchase books, manuscript materials, or laboratory apparatus. Grants may not be given to aid in the publication of manuscripts.

Before applying to the Council, the applicant should have canvassed other possible sources of support, especially the institution to which he is attached.

The maximum amount granted by the Council will ordinarily not exceed \$1,000.

The closing date for receipt of applications for 1939-40 on forms provided by the Grants-in-Aid-Secretary is January 15, 1939.

Grants will be announced April 1, 1939.

In making initial inquiry IT IS IMPORTANT TO INDICATE previous research experience, nature of project, and amount of aid required. It is requested that application blanks be secured well in advance of January 15, 1939, so that there may be ample time to fill out and return them before that date.

