



Office of Postdoctoral Affairs

2019-2020 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD FOR POSTDOCS & HOUSE OFFICERS

Description of Award

The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs is pleased to announce the 2019-2020 Professional Development Awards for Postdocs at NC State University. These awards (up to \$1,000 each) are designed to assist postdoctoral scholars in pursuit of professional development or training opportunities that directly enhance their professional growth. In previous years, four to six postdocs have been awarded; the number of awards will depend on the availability of funds for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Postdocs with creative and unique ideas for reaching their professional development goals in research and/or teaching are encouraged to apply. Previous funded proposals have included designing a laboratory module for a physics undergraduate course, engaging in professional development workshops at conferences, and organizing a training workshop on statistical software for graduate students and postdoctoral researchers.

NOTE: They are not intended to supplement a faculty advisor's budget. If funds are used towards any type of equipment or software, it will belong to NC State University and cannot be removed upon termination of the postdoc appointment.

Requirements and Eligibility:

- Postdoctoral Research Scholars, Postdoctoral Teaching Scholars, Postdoctoral Fellows, and House Officers (as designated in Human Resource records) in all disciplines are eligible to apply
- Must have a 1.0 FTE position, 9-month or 12-month appointment
- A postdoctoral scholar can only receive the award once and only while they are employed at NC State University
- Funds must be used by June 15, 2020 and cannot be used retroactively
- Purchases will be made directly by the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs; reimbursements will be processed if necessary
- Awardees must present a research poster at the May 2020 Postdoctoral Research Symposium, or engage in three approved professional development workshops organized by The Graduate School

How to Apply:

Please submit your *complete* application as a **PDF file** to postdocadmin@ncsu.edu by one of the two deadlines (Fall or Winter). Your application should include all of the following:

- 1) Current copy of your CV
- 2) Signed letter of support from your faculty advisor
- 3) Budget proposal of how the money will be spent with specific details (titles of conferences or workshops, etc.) and dollar amounts; budget cannot exceed \$1,000
- 4) One-page including:
 - a. Brief description of your research project at NC State
 - b. Description of how the award relates to your research and career goals

Fall Application Deadline: Sunday, September 22nd, 2019 at 11:59 PM

Fall Awards Announced: Mid October 2019

Winter Application Deadline: Sunday, January 12th, 2020 at 11:59 PM

Spring Awards Announced: Mid February 2020

Frequently Asked Questions:

1) I'm not sure if my idea fits the criteria for the award. What should I do?

If you have any questions about your proposal, please contact Chris Smith at ctsmit23@ncsu.edu

2) If I applied for last year's Professional Development Award and was not selected, can I still apply this year?

Yes, as long as you have not previously received the award, you are encouraged to apply.

3) Can I attend a research conference?

Yes, as long as the conference provides professional development opportunities that are outside the scope of your research. The purpose of the Professional Development Awards is to provide opportunities that will complement the postdoctoral training you receive at NC State University. Proposals to attend research conferences directly related to your research will not be considered. If the Professional Development Award is intended to cover a conference registration fee, please include in your budget proposal how travel funds will be covered.

4) What if the conference registration fees are not currently posted?

If the current year's conference registration fee is not available, provide last year's conference registration fee.

5) Can the Professional Development Award be applied to professional society membership fees?

No, the Professional Development Award cannot be applied towards any membership fees unless they are associated with conference registration fees.

6) What if my budget proposal is less than \$1,000? What if it exceeds \$1,000?

Budget proposals less than \$1,000 are encouraged to apply. If your budget proposal exceeds \$1,000, you

must include additional information about how the remaining funds will be covered (i.e. your faculty advisor's budget, etc.).

7) What are other ideas for the Professional Development Award?

Other specific examples could be:

- *National Postdoctoral Association (NPA) Annual Meeting*
- *International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference*
- *Intensive grant writing workshop (typically priced \$800-\$1,000)*
- *Short online courses similar to:*
<https://odum.unc.edu/short-courses/>
- *Research conferences advertised through the NC Biotechnology Center*
- *Training programs offered off campus*