Funding Opportunities for Mathematics Graduate Students

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• The information in this presentation applies primarily to PhD students.

• A few of the opportunities apply to MS students, also.
Teaching Assistantships

• Most common form of funding
• Can be split by semester
  e.g. TA in Fall, RA in Spring
• Can be split within a semester
  e.g. 25% TA and 25% RA
• Up to 6 years of funding (or 5 years if you enter with a Masters degree), provided you make good progress academically and perform TA duties satisfactorily
• Request in Spring for following year
• Annual raise determined by grad union contract
Research Assistantships

• Funding typically comes from your adviser’s grant (e.g. Campus Research Board, or NSF, or another granting agency). So first you need to get an adviser!

• RA stipend is usually the same as a TA stipend.

• RA position usually leaves you with plenty of time for your own research.

• Talk to your adviser about possible funding.

• GEAR internship — research in Geometric Structures at various universities.
Math Department and Grad College Fellowships

• Small number available. Highly competitive.
• Based on excellent academic performance
• Fellowship stipend is same as for TA
• Grad College offers Dissertation Completion fellowships
• No duties - time to concentrate on your research!
• Applications announced in the Spring
Summer funding options

- Save money from your stipend during the year.
- Summer TA – Math or NetMath about 20 positions.
- RA through adviser’s grant.
- **PI4 funding** (restricted to US students).
- **GEAR-REGS** – research in Geometric Structures and Representation Varieties at various universities.
- Summer schools in U.S. or abroad (talk to professors in your area).
- Paid internship at a company or national lab (arrange by yourself, or through a professor or through PI4, or NSF associated with adviser’s grant.)

Read “grad-careers” emails to learn about opportunities and see [https://math.illinois.edu/academics/graduate-program/funding/summer-funding](https://math.illinois.edu/academics/graduate-program/funding/summer-funding)
External Fellowships

- **Graduate College Fellowship Database**
- **Graduate College Resources for applications**
- Many are restricted to US students
- Many restrict to certain fields of study, demographic characteristics of applicant, dissertation year, or other criteria
- International students – seek funding opportunities from your home country and university
- Fulbright Foreign Student Program
  - [http://foreign.fulbrightonline.org](http://foreign.fulbrightonline.org)
External Fellowships held by Math grad students

• NSF-GRF
• National Physical Science Consortium
• Ford Foundation
• NDSEG
• Royal Thai Scholarship
• NSERC (Canada)
• A*STAR Scholarship, Singapore
• Belgian-American Educational Foundation
• American Association of University Women Career Development Grant
• NSF Career Grant Fellowship
External Fellowships for U.S. students

Talk with Karen Mortensen if you might want to apply for:

- **National Physical Science Consortium - Graduate Fellowships in Science, Engineering, & Math**
- **Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowships**
- **National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) – Fellowship**
- **U.S. Department of Energy Computational Science Graduate Fellowship**
- **Hertz Foundation (applied mathematics)**
NSF Graduate Research Fellowship
for U.S. students

• Stipend = $34,000 per year for three years.
• Why to apply: money, freedom, prestige, application experience.
• U.S. students should apply in 1st or 2nd year.
• Criteria: intellectual merit & broader impact.
• Help with applications: faculty, Grad College, Karen Mortensen in our department.