GULF RESEARCH PROGRAM
SCIENCE POLICY FELLOWSHIP
Diversity Advancing Science. Talent Benefiting the Gulf.

Applications Open: November 1, 2023 - February 7, 2024   **Start Date:** September 1, 2024

The Gulf Research Program's Science Policy Fellowship program helps scientists hone their skills by putting them to practice for the benefit of Gulf Coast communities and ecosystems. Fellows gain first-hand experience as they spend one year on the staff of federal, state, local, or non-governmental environmental agencies.

With the guidance of a mentor, fellows delve into activities like policy development, evaluation, restoration planning, grants management, and stakeholder outreach and learn what it takes to make scientific information not just useful but useable. Meanwhile, host offices get a talented technical expert with a fresh perspective and a new network of contacts across the Gulf of Mexico region.

Eligibility

Applicants must:
- Be currently enrolled in a doctoral program or hold an eligible degree, including MA/MS, MPH/MSPH, PhD, ScD, EngD, MD, DrPH, and DVM. For applicants not currently enrolled in a doctoral program, eligible degrees must be completed by August 15, 2024, and conferred by December 31, 2024. Applicants currently enrolled in a doctoral program must take a leave of absence for the duration of the fellowship.

- Come from an area of research – including social and behavioral sciences, health sciences and medicine, engineering and physical sciences, earth and life sciences, and interdisciplinary scientific fields – relevant to the mission of the Gulf Research Program which is to develop, translate, and apply science, engineering, and medical knowledge to enhance offshore energy safety, environmental protection and stewardship, and human health and community resilience in the Gulf region in ways that empower its citizens.

- Open to U.S. citizens only

- Not be currently employed by the U.S. federal government. Full-time, paid, permanent federal employees are not eligible for the fellowship.

Stipend and Benefits

- Fellows who have completed an MA, MS, or MPH/MSPH degree or who are currently enrolled in a doctoral program will receive an annual stipend of **$58,000.**
- Fellows who have completed a PhD, ScD, EngD, MD, DrPH, or DVM will receive an annual stipend of **$63,000.**
- In addition to the stipend, each fellow will receive an annual health allowance of **$5,500**, which will be added to the stipend package.
- Fellows will also receive a **$1,500** one-time payment prior to or at the beginning of the fellowship term to defray costs associated with relocation.

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Fellow Spotlight

Using data science and maps to visualize historical inequities and climate change, Simone Chapman, a 2020 Science Policy Fellow with the Gulf Research Program, is working to make strides in environmental justice.

During her fellowship with the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC), Chapman focused on applying a racial equity lens to her work in environmental management as she created a mapping methodology that ensures tools that make use of racial equity research and data layers are used consistently.

"Mapping tools help identify environmental inequalities," says Chapman who supports the Resilience and Energy Assessment for Community and Housing (REACH) initiative at TBRPC. "A lot of times you can't see inequalities, they aren't in your face. It's over time, or it's looking at things spatially, that you begin to understand data and change over time."

Environmental justice is not only multifaceted with deep connections to climate, racism, and resiliency, but the consequences of inequity can also compound. A flooding event can lead to housing insecurity which can cause health issues that lead to educational challenges and so forth, Chapman added.

"Right now, people are seeing these things happen, people are more open to understanding climate change. When that happens, the conversation is going to continue, people are listening. I think this is a great time to get into this field and talk about these issues."

About the Gulf Research Program

The Gulf Research Program (GRP) is one of seven major divisions of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. The GRP's mission is to develop, translate, and apply science, engineering, and medical knowledge to enhance offshore energy safety, environmental protection and stewardship, and human health and community resilience in the Gulf region in ways that empower its citizens. It supports innovative science, guides data design and monitoring, and builds and sustains networks that transform results to action.

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