



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.



NATIONAL ACADEMIES Sciences
Engineering
Medicine

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2023 Host Offices*

- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) - Gulf of Mexico Region
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- NOAA RESTORE Science Program
- Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council
- Texas Parks and Wildlife, Coastal Fisheries
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Gulf of Mexico Program
- Mississippi Based RESTORE Act Center of Excellence
- Mobile Bay National Estuary Program
- U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) - SafeOCS
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Deepwater Horizon Gulf Restoration Office
- Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council
- Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC)
- NOAA - National Centers for Environmental Information
- Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA)
- The Water Institute

*2024 host offices will be added to our website as they are finalized.

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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Fellow Spotlight

While working on identifying data gaps to establish a nutrient trading program based around aquaculture, Blair Morrison, a 2022 Science Policy Fellow working with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS), observed another gap in the aquaculture industry: the gender gap.



Morrison noticed that while there were women pursuing higher education opportunities in aquaculture, she saw fewer women and gender-minority individuals working in the field. In order to explore this disconnect, Morrison created and coordinated the inaugural Women of the Water conference to connect women and gender-minority individuals working in aquaculture fields. From her perspective, the mentorship aspect of the fellowship was essential to making the conference a reality.

"My mentor, Dr. Marcy Cockrell, is amazing. She was also a [Gulf Research Program] Science Policy Fellow a couple of years ago, and she's been so supportive of not only my growth and my foray into policy, as it were, but also she's been really supportive of my personal side projects that I was interested in bringing into the fellowship role, like the Women of the Water Conference."

Jointly organized by FDACS, SeaGrant Florida, and the Mote Marine Laboratory, the intent of the conference was to provide networks of opportunity and support for attendees while showcasing the variety of paths in aquaculture and uplifting underrepresented voices in the industry.

"At the conference, I loved being able to see connections forming between stakeholders in various spheres and levels of experience in the industry; we were so lucky to have several generations of women of the water in attendance, from pioneers of Florida clam farming to undergraduate students," Morrison noted. "It was incredibly powerful to hear the candid stories and personal experiences of our attendees while interacting in a mostly-female space."

Scan the QR code to learn more about the Science Policy Fellowship!



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