# NSF GRFP Job Aid: Stipend Supplementation & Additional Assignments

## Stipend supplementation

Purpose: A Fellow's NSF GRFP stipend may be supplemented when the department or college's established stipend level for graduate students in similar academic standing exceeds the NSF annual stipend (currently $37,000).

Requirements:

- Supplementation must comply with department/college policy.
- Individual federal fellowships (e.g., F31 awards) cannot be used for supplementation. **NSF Fellows may not accept other federal individual fellowships while on NSF Tenure**.
- If using a sponsored award, account 122710 must be allowable on that award. Contact the assigned C&G Analyst for review.
- Supplementation cannot require the Fellow to perform institutional service or departmental labor.

Payment accounts

| Supplementation | Account code |
|---|---|
| Fellow Stipend Supplements | 122710 |

## Additional assignments (e.g. Teaching or Research Assistant)

Purpose: Fellows may participate in a reasonable amount of teaching or research assistantship activity in addition to their fellowship, provided the activity supports their education.

Requirements:

- The assignment must be within the Fellow's field of study and further their educational goals.
- Up to 9.5 additional hours per week are allowed without Graduate College approval.
- Graduate College approval is required for assignments exceeding 9.5 additional hours per week.
- Assignments cannot constitute institutional service or be required to make up the difference between the NSF Cost of Education (COE) allowance and tuition/fees.

Payment accounts

| Assignment | Account code |
|---|---|
| Research Assistant (RA) | 122600 |
| Teaching Assistant (TA)* | 122500 |

*Note: TA payments from sponsored funds are typically unallowable unless the award specifically permits them.

## Decision guide for Department Administrators

| Scenario | Guidance |
|---|---|
| Department supplements a Fellow to meet its established stipend level, consistent with policy, with no service requirement. | Potentially allowable; use 122710 and verify the funding source is allowable. |
| Fellow receives additional funds in exchange for departmental office work. | Not allowable as stipend supplementation. |
| Fellow teaches a course in their field to gain relevant teaching experience, for 9.5 hours or less per week. | Allowable example; use 122500; funding source is typically non-sponsored. |
| Fellow works as an RA on a project related to their field and educational goals for up to 9.5 hours per week. | Allowable example, provided sponsored costs are permitted; use 122600. |

## When to contact the Research Office

Contact the Research Office, Katie Brown (brownkt@udel.edu) before setting up payment if:

- You are unsure whether a funding source is an individual federal fellowship.
- A sponsored award will fund stipend supplementation.
- The assignment's relationship to the Fellow's field of study or educational goals is unclear.
- The proposed assignment exceeds 9.5 additional hours per week.

## Resources

Graduate College Policies
NSF GRFP Administrative Guide