

New Jersey Economic Development Authority
Notice of Funding
For

Wind Institute Fellowship Program for Private Research Universities

REVISED AS OF FEBRUARY 10, 2023 EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY
This Notice of Funding is subject to the Governor's veto pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:1B-4.i
and remains conditional until February 23, 2023.

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority ("NJEDA") will begin accepting applications for the Wind Institute Fellowship Program for Private Research Universities on February 24, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. and will close on March 3, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. The application is open for 6 calendar days. There is a \$1,000 non-refundable application fee. This is a non-competitive program. A total of \$844,800 will be available through this program, with a maximum award amount of \$281,000 per university. The application can be accessed at:

<https://www.njeda.com/wind-institute-fellowship-program-for-private-research-universities/>

Purpose

This grant opportunity is issued by the NJEDA seeking applications from qualified universities to participate in the Wind Institute Fellowship Program ("Fellowship Program"). NJEDA entered into Memorandums of Understanding with New Jersey's public research universities for the first year of the Fellowship Program, which covers academic year 2022-2023. For Fellowship Program Year 2 and Fellowship Program Year 3, NJEDA seeks to also enter into agreements with New Jersey's private, public mission research universities to expand the Fellowship Program.

Overview

The Fellowship Program is designed to encourage and support student research in topics that further the development of offshore wind in New Jersey and build student and faculty advisor expertise in offshore wind. Participating students ("Fellows") will conduct independent research under the tutelage of a faculty advisor at their home institution. Fellows will convene as a cohort to participate in industry trainings, guest lectures, site visits and other activities to support their knowledge of the offshore wind industry, providing exposure to industry stakeholders.

For each Fellowship Program Year, each school will be responsible for recruiting a diverse set of students and managing their own application and selection process. Fellows may be upper class undergraduate (juniors and seniors) and graduate students, including masters and doctoral students, in any discipline/degree program as long as the research conducted for the Fellowship Program is focused on offshore wind. NJEDA will provide funding to each school to disburse as stipends for a capped number of students as described below. Undergraduate Fellows will receive a \$15,000 stipend and graduate Fellows will receive a \$30,000 stipend. Each Fellow will be provided an additional \$1,000 stipend for travel, material, equipment, and other research expenses related to their Fellowship. Each private, public mission university will be able to select up to four (4) Fellows, with a goal of selecting at least one undergraduate (junior and senior) and one graduate

(masters or ph.d) Fellow for each Fellowship Program Year. In addition, each faculty advisor will receive a \$1,000 honorarium, and each school will be provided 10% of the total grant amount for facilities and administration expenses.

The Fellows' research is expected to be completed over the course of the academic year, with the addition of the preceding or following Summer semester at each school's discretion. Overall, the Fellowship should be in place for a minimum of 25 weeks and a maximum of 40 weeks. Fellowship Program Year 2 will take place during the 2023-2024 academic year beginning no later than the Fall 2023 semester and ending no later than the Summer 2024 semester. Fellowship Program Year 3 will take place during the 2024-2025 academic year beginning no later than the Fall 2024 semester and ending no later than the Summer 2025 semester. For each Fellowship Program Year, NJEDA will organize cohort meetings from October to April as well as an April symposium where Fellows will present their research findings to an audience of government, academic, and industry stakeholders.

Eligibility

Only New Jersey private, public-mission universities designated by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education as R1 (Very High Research Activity) or R2 (High Research Activity) are eligible to apply for this grant.

The university applicant must be in substantial good standing with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The university applicant must provide a current tax clearance certificate as part of the application from the New Jersey Division of Taxation. Certificates may be requested through the State of New Jersey Premier Business Services portal online at: https://www16.state.nj.us/NJ_PREMIER_EBIZ/jsp/home.jsp

Project Scope

In support of the Fellowship Program, each of the selected universities will:

- Develop and submit a Fellowship Program marketing and selection process plan that will guide efforts to advertise the program widely and support engagement of a diverse group of students and faculty advisors.
- Conduct an application and selection process with established selection criteria
- Facilitate connections between Fellows and faculty advisors and relevant resources at the university
- Submit the names of the selected students, advisors, project descriptions, and signed participation forms to NJEDA within fifteen (15) days of completing the selection process and no later than September 1, 2023 for Fellowship Program Year 2 and September 1, 2024 for Fellowship Program Year 3
- Begin the Fellowship Program no later than the Fall 2023 semester and conclude the program no later than the Summer 2024 semester for Fellowship Year 2 and begin no later than the Fall 2024 semester and conclude no later than the Summer 2025 semester for Fellowship Year 3
- Assign a university representative to support NJEDA staff on communications with the Fellows and advisors throughout the Fellowship Program

- Disburse and track program expenditures including payments to Fellows and honorariums to advisors per the university's internal policies and procedures
- Submit a report detailing the use of funds throughout the Fellowship Program no later than September 1, 2024 for Fellowship Program Year 2 and no later than September 1, 2025 for Fellowship Program Year 3
- Return any funds not utilized for the program to NJEDA by September 30, 2024 for Fellowship Program Year 2 and September 30, 2025 for Fellowship Program Year 2. With NJEDA's written approval, each university may roll over any unutilized Fellowship Program Year 2 funding to be used for Fellowship Program Year 3.

In support of the Fellowship Program, NJEDA will:

- Provide communication materials and support the schools in marketing the Fellowship Program
- Organize five to eight Fellowship cohort meetings from October to April of each Fellowship Program Year for Fellows to participate in industry trainings, guest lectures, site visits, and/or presentations
- Recruit and engage key industry stakeholders throughout the program to maximize the Fellows' exposure to the industry
- Organize the Wind Institute Fellowship Symposium to take place in April of each Fellowship Program Year
- Upon receiving the names of the selected students and their project descriptions, provide schools with funding based on the number and graduate level of the selected Fellows for each Fellowship Program Year.

Application Process

Applications will be accepted between February 24, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. and March 3, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. All interested applicants must complete and submit their applications online through the portal by the deadline to be considered for the program. The application can be found at: <https://www.njeda.com/wind-institute-fellowship-program-for-private-research-universities/>

After the application window is closed, NJEDA staff will review all applications for completeness and compliance with the required documentation. All eligible applicants will be notified of their selection. NJEDA staff may request clarifying or additional information from applicants with incomplete or noncompliant applications and such information must be received within five (5) business days of the date of request or the response may be rejected.

There is no scoring criteria for this Program. NJEDA will enter an agreement with any and all applicants meeting the eligibility criteria subject to the availability of funds.

Grant Amounts

For each Fellowship Year, the maximum grant amount for each university is \$140,800 (calculation based on all four Fellows at the graduate level). The grant award for each university would be less if the university selects fewer than the specified number of Fellows in total and/or a mix of undergraduate and graduate Fellows.

Eligible Uses

Funds may only be used for the Wind Institute Fellowship Program for:

- Student research
- Travel/material stipends
- Faculty advisor honorariums (one faculty advisor per Fellow)
- 10% of the total grant amount for facilities and administrative expenses

Disbursement

Within fifteen (15) days of completing the selection process and no later than September 1, 2023 for Fellowship Program Year 2 and September 1, 2024 for Fellowship Program Year 3, the university must submit to NJEDA documentation on the selected students including the names of the selected students, advisors, project descriptions, and signed participation forms. Once received, NJEDA will disburse funds for each Fellowship Program Year based on:

- \$30,000 per graduate Fellow
- \$15,000 per undergraduate Fellow
- \$1,000 stipend per undergraduate or graduate Fellow for travel, materials, and other Fellowship expenses
- \$1,000 faculty honorarium per faculty advisor
- 10% of the grant amount for Facilities and Administration expenses

Additional Information

Information about the Wind Institute Fellowship Program for Private Research Universities can be found at: <https://www.njeda.com/wind-institute-fellowship-program-for-private-research-universities/>

