



Innovation and Entrepreneurship Graduate Research Fellowship 2023

**University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)
Center for Innovation, Commercialization, and
Entrepreneurship (Center ICE)**

Informational Webinar

Tuesday January 17, 2023, 2:30 pm AK time – [Sign Up](#),
Recording: [YouTube](#)

Opening Date: Tuesday January 17, 2023

Submission Date: Friday March 3, 2023 (by 11:59 PM AKT)

Awards Announced: Monday March 14, 2023

Funding Period: Summer/Fall 2023

Section 1: Background on the fellowship

The University of Alaska Fairbanks Center for Innovation, Commercialization, and Entrepreneurship (Center ICE) is supported by a grant from the Office of Naval Research called RISE-Up. The primary objective of this Innovation and Entrepreneurship Graduate Research Fellowship is to support students for an opportunity to broaden their skill set to learn innovation and entrepreneurship practices and acquire necessary tools for launching a successful startup as well as to assess the innovative opportunities and broader impacts of their own graduate research. Center ICE can fund graduate full-time students for Summer 2023 and students for the Fall 2023 including tuition and health insurance.

Center ICE is focused on supporting students to understand the entrepreneurial potential for their own academic research project and/or the research being performed by their faculty advisor or those researchers in their group or laboratory. The aim of the fellowship is to provide those funded students with the time and support to pursue their entrepreneurial journey, understand the commercial and broader impact opportunities of their graduate research and studies as well as provide new skills and increased capacity to build resilient innovators for tomorrow.

Section 2: Student Eligibility for fellowship program

Applicants must be full-time graduate students currently enrolled in Ph.D. or master's degree programs at UAF, UAA, or UAS, and in good academic standing. Applicants are expected to have formed a graduate advisory committee and a graduate study plan that will need to be part of their application. Applicants are expected to be based in the state of Alaska during the funding period.

Section 3: Duration and expectation of successful applicants

This 2023 fellowship includes summer salary support at the appropriate level for the applicant's degree status for up to 40 hours per week. For Fall 2023, this support provides 20 hours per week including tuition at the appropriate level for a full-time (9 credits) student.

To maintain the award, all of the following criteria must be met by the funded student:

- Present results of their work at a Center ICE Jam event
- Participate in UAF NSF-funded I-Corps program, that includes additional funding support
- Two 1:1 meeting with Center ICE technology transfer team during time in the fellowship
- Attend summer Students to Startups informational events, after consultation with Center ICE
- Submit a Progress Report: Summer - during first week of July; Fall - during first week of Oct
- Submit Final Report using defined format that includes details of their entrepreneurial journey

Section 4: Application Instructions

Each applicant will complete a Google Form, <https://bit.ly/2023-IE-Grad-Fellowship-App>, and attach a PDF with the following details. The application form will require each applicant to provide: Full name, Degree Program [PhD/Master], Department and/or Research Group, Faculty Advisor name and email.

A complete PDF file to go with the application form shall consist of:

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Part 1a: Research Summary. A 500-word description of the applicant's project including its alignment with this innovation and entrepreneurship opportunity. Applicants provide details on how their proposed research will impact a community and/or is developing a solution to a specific problem or need. Applicants should also include details on how the project aligns with graduate studies and thesis work.

Part 1b: Project timeline. A 300-word description of the applicant's timeline to complete the work proposed under Section 1a: Research summary. Highlight how the applicant will assess project successes, evaluate project risks, and work towards their research outcomes.

Part 2: Experience of Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E). A 300-word description of the applicant's experience of innovation and entrepreneurship including any training, events participated in, or events attended. All applicants should include details on how future training supports their fellowship project.

Part 3: Benefit of funding to academic career. A 500-word description of how this funding will benefit the applicant's graduate studies and their research, as well as their career past their graduate degree. If appropriate include how the applicant will analyze the innovation potential of their research group.

Part 4: Benefit of fellowship to future career. A 300-word description of how this funding will benefit the applicant's career path beyond their graduate degree.

Part 5: Research experience. A 300-word description of the applicant's experience in research including current and past academic research. Please describe examples of how the applicant has previously defined outcomes in their research and the impact of the results from their research.

Part 6: Current Graduate Work. Graduate Study Plan (scan signed plan if available) or detailed reason for currently not having a study plan (e.g., incoming, or first-year graduate student who hasn't finalized one yet) and expected submission date of study plan.

Part 7: Two-page resume. Applicants are asked to include a two-page resume that includes academic background, examples of up to five publications or products including any outreach activities, and up to five examples of extracurricular academic activities that can be both current and past.

Additional information to be sent separate to student application

Letter of Reference. One letter of reference from the faculty sponsor/mentor must be submitted separately via email to <https://bit.ly/2023-IE-Grad-Fellowship-Reference>. Letters should address the following in two pages or less:

- Details of any other funding sources for summer/fall 2023
- Research ability and potential to become an independent researcher
- Skills to assess direct impact, entrepreneurial opportunities, and commercial potential of research
- Written and verbal communication skills, including ability to organize scientific data
- Quality of research endeavors or publications to date, if applicable
- Perseverance in pursuing goals
- Evidence of creativity
- Need for further innovation, entrepreneurship, and research experience and training

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References may provide any additional, related comments that they believe will help reviewers evaluate the merit of the student's application and their potential to become productive, independent investigators and to understand the entrepreneurial opportunities from their research and the broader impacts that it will provide to communities and/or specific industries.

For letter of reference please make sure the faculty advisor uses format: *Student Last Name-First initial-MAU campus-2023-I&E-Graduate-Fellowship-Reference-Advisor Last Name-First-Initial*" Example: **Smith-J-UAF-2023-I&E-Graduate-Fellowship-Reference-Webley-P.pdf**.

Section 5: Proposal requirements

PDF format

- **Font:** Use an Arial, Helvetica, Palatino Linotype, Barlow, or Georgia typeface, a black font color, and a font size of 11 points or larger.
- **Paper Size and Margins:** Use 8.5 by 11 inch and at least one-half inch margins (top, bottom, left, and right) for all pages
- **Page Formatting:** Use standard, single-spaced, single-column format.
- **Grantsmanship:** Use English and avoid jargon. If an acronym is used, spell out the term the first time it is used and note abbreviation in parentheses.

If an applicant needs access to Adobe suite software to convert PDF, see available software at University of Alaska [OIT](#).

Applicants should prepare documents and convert the files to a **single PDF document** before submitting via the **Google form**. **PDF format is required**. Maximum file size is 4MB. Save all files as follows: "*Last Name-First initial-MAU campus-2023-I&E-Graduate-Fellowship-Application*" Example: **Smith-J-UAF-2023-I&E-Graduate-Fellowship-Application.pdf**. If you have any questions regarding the file name, format, or file sizing please contact *I&E-Graduate-Fellowship-Application* Manager Peter Webley at pwwwebley@alaska.edu

All submissions will receive an email notification of receipt by the end of the next business day.

Submission Date: Friday March 3, 2023 (by 11:59 PM AKT)

Section 6: Review Procedures

Applications will be evaluated based on fellowship [criteria](#), the applicant's academic standing and potential to succeed following funding through this fellowship. All submissions will receive feedback and be informed of decisions on the status of the applications by March 6, 2023, at 11:59 pm Alaska time.

Section 7: Award conditions

The awardees will be supported to work up to 40 hours per week in the summer on this project and for those supported during the Fall will be supported to work on their project for 20 hours per week.

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Awardees will be required to file a Progress Report by Sunday July 9, 2023 at 11:59 pm AK time to centerice@alaska.edu and a cc to Peter Webley, pwwwebley@alaska.edu. Awardees also supported for the Fall 2023 will need to provide an updated Progress Report by Sunday October 8, 2023, at 11:59 pm AK time to the same email accounts.

Reports will include: 1) Entrepreneurial analysis progress; 2) A complete list of publications authored or co-authored and presentations since the start of the award; and 3) any outreach to the community about the funded research. They should be submitted in PDF with the format: "Last Name- First initial-MAU campus-2023-I&E-Graduate-Fellowship-Progress-Report", Example: **Smith-J-UAF-2023-I&E-Graduate-Fellowship-Progress-Report.pdf**.

Additionally, during the awardees support from this fellowship they will be required to complete all items listed under Section 3 of this RFP.

Final report for summer support awardees will need to be submitted by Sunday August 13, 2023, at 11:59 pm AK time. Those with fall support will submit their final report after consultation with fellowship manager, Professor Peter Webley.

Section 8: Contact details

For specific questions, please email centerice@alaska.edu and cc Peter Webley, pwwwebley@alaska.edu with subject: "I&E Graduate Research Fellowship 2023"

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