



Early-Career Research Fellowship

Offshore Energy Safety Track

Applications Open: January 10 - March 6, 2024

Start Date: September 1, 2024

Track Goal: For the 2024-2026 Application Cycle, the Offshore Energy Safety track goal focuses on contributing to the understanding, management, and reduction of systemic risk in offshore energy activities. Experience in research pertaining to the identification and reduction of systemic risk in other industries is also desired.

About the Early-Career Research Fellowship

The Gulf Research Program's Early-Career Research Fellowship supports emerging scientific leaders as they take risks on research ideas not yet tested, pursue unique collaborations, and build a network of colleagues who share their interest in improving offshore energy system safety and the well-being of coastal communities and ecosystems. Because the early years of a researcher's career are a critical time, the relatively unrestricted funds and mentoring this fellowship provides help recipients navigate this period with independence, flexibility, and a built-in support network.

ECRF Tracks

The Early-Career Research Fellowship is split into four tracks that align with the Gulf Research Program's priority areas. The application cycle for each track is spread over the better part of one year.

The tracks include:

- Human Health and Community Resilience
- Environmental Protection and Stewardship
- Offshore Energy Safety
- Education Research

Fellowship Benefits

An award of \$76,000 is paid to each fellow's institution in the form of a two-year grant. Funds cannot be used on institutional overhead or indirect charges.

- Research funding: \$75,000 is available for the fellow to use for research-related expenses, including equipment purchases, professional travel, professional development courses, trainee support, salary, or any other costs directly related to the fellow's research.
- Mentor honorarium: The remaining \$1,000 of the award serves as an honorarium for a mentor. Applicants must identify a senior-level researcher at their affiliated institution willing to serve as a career mentor.
- Additional funding: Fellows may be required to attend other events/conferences during their fellowship term, which may include a fellows and/or alumni networking event. Travel expenses for these events will be covered by the Gulf Research Program; they are in addition to the \$76,000 fellowship award.



Eligibility

- Hold a permanent, fully independent position as an investigator, faculty member, clinician scientist, or scientific team lead in industry, academia, or a research organization. A postdoc is not considered a fully independent position.
- Be an early-career scientist who has received their eligible degree within the past 10 years (on or after January 1, 2014).
- Hold a doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, ScD, EngD, MD, DrPH, or DVM) in the engineering and physical sciences, earth and life sciences, social and behavioral sciences, health sciences and medicine, or interdisciplinary scientific fields relevant to the charge of the Gulf Research Program.
- Be affiliated with a non-federal U.S. institution that has a valid tax ID number.
- Not be currently employed by the U.S. federal government.

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.



Upcoming Dates:

Human Health and Community Resilience

Application opens January 10, 2024

Application closes March 6, 2024

Environmental Protection and Stewardship

Application opens April 10, 2024

Application Closes May 22, 2024

Education Research

Application opens April 10, 2024

Application Closes May 22, 2024

"The Early-Career Research Fellowship was a perfect fit because I could explore different opportunities compared to a traditional grant where you're working on a single project. It allowed me to expand beyond my primary research and collaborate with multidisciplinary applications."

– Dr. Vineetha Menon, ECRF 2020



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For questions, please e-mail:

GulfFellowships@nas.edu

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