

National Foundation of Science and Advanced Technologies

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Long Term Travel Grant Program for Promising Armenian Young Scientists and Engineers

On a competitive basis, NFSAT will sponsor travel to the United States and living expenses for research visits of up to three months in duration for Armenian young scientists. The applicants must be 35 years of age or younger at the time their application is submitted. Additional NFSAT criteria for the competition include an invitation from a U.S. university or non-profit institution to carry out investigation proposed by Armenian young scientists in the fields of the Natural, Exact and Technical sciences. As a rule, NFSAT will give priority to research that can realistically be completed within a two month period and which has a high likelihood of resulting in a publication in a prominent international scientific journals.

This initiative will provide young Armenian scientists and engineers with an opportunity to explore their research ideas using the facilities of modern and well-equipped U.S. laboratories. This program is designed to enable young Armenian scientists and engineers to identify and develop new contacts, which will promote further collaboration between Armenian and U.S. scientists. NFSAT hopes to support up to four grants of no more than \$6,000.00 each, depending upon the duration of research and the U.S. visit. All travel grants will be subject to the U.S. flag carrier rule.

The Long Term Travel Grants Program is carried out under the prime Award #NFSAT-03-2001 provided by the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation for the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union (CRDF) to support NFSAT in accordance with, "Program of Development of Basic Sciences and Scientific Infrastructure in the Republic of Armenia," submitted on April 22, 2001.

I. Eligibility and Funding Guidelines:

Program applicants must submit the following application materials:

- Description of scientific research project to be carried out (maximum 4 pages).
- Invitation from a U.S. scientific host (maximum 1 page). This letter should indicate familiarity with the proposed research project, an indication that the host is able to provide the research facilities necessary for the Armenian candidate to successfully carry out the project, a willingness to assist the applicant with logistical (though not necessarily financial) support for his or her visit and an affirmation that the host will support efforts by the applicant to arrange publication of the results of the research.
- Proof of any additional financial or in-kind support from the U.S. hosts or other sources (not individuals) other than access to laboratory equipment and facilities.
- Letter of endorsement from the applicant's organization (maximum 1 page).
- NFSAT will give the highest priority to proposals submitted by:
 - a) graduate students, and undergraduate students at Armenian universities who have completed at least three years.
 - b) first-time Armenian visitors to the United States.
- NFSAT's support for lodging and meals and incidentals should follow U.S. Government per diem guidelines.

(Please refer to the following website for detailed per diem rates: <http://policyworks.gov/org/main/mt/homepage/mt/perdiem/travel.html>).

II. Review of Proposals:

Each proposal will be screened for eligibility and completeness upon receipt by NFSAT. All proposals will be reviewed by members of the NFSAT Scientific Board who have appropriate expertise in the field of the proposal. NFSAT may turn to external reviewers if additional consultations are needed or if a proposal is outside any of the Scientific Board members' areas of expertise. NFSAT will give special consideration to proposals that meet the priorities listed above.

III. Deadlines:

NFSAT must receive requests for travel support at least six weeks prior to the intended date of travel. Travel must be completed by October 1, 2003. NFSAT plans to award up to 4 travel grants. NFSAT will

accept applications until June 31, 2003 or until the 4 grant limit has been reached. NFSAT may later decide to extend the program beyond this date.

IV. Applications must include:

- A signed Application Form (see attached);
- Invitation from the U.S. side as detailed above in *I. Eligibility and Guidelines*. Curriculum Vitae for the applicant;
- Recommendation or endorsement from the applicant's organization (it MUST contain the full name of the applicant and the title of the proposal).

Applications without these documents will not be considered for support.

Travel must comply with the provisions of the Fly America Act.

Applications should be sent directly to: Travel Grant Program, NFSAT, Azatutian Ave., 26, Yerevan, tel:

28 81 92, e-mail: info@nfsat.am

**NFSAT LONG TERM TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM
FOR ARMENIAN SCIENTISTS
APPLICATION FORM**

I. Name

- A. Last _____ First _____ Patronymic _____
 B. Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year) _____
 C. Highest Degree Earned: _____; Field: _____; Year awarded: _____
 D. Office Phone: _____; Fax: _____; E-mail: _____
 E. Professional Title/Position _____
 F. Institution/Address _____

II. Status

- A. Do you have experience in defense related subjects? ___ YES; ___ NO.
 If YES, please provide a brief 3-4 word description _____
 B. Have you visited the U.S. before? ___ YES; ___ NO;
 If YES, please provide a brief 3-4 word description of the reason for your visit _____

III. U.S. host institution

- A. Name of U.S. host institution _____

 B. Full contact information for host institution _____

 C. Dates of hosting: visit _____; research _____
 D. Topic of investigation that will be carried out by the Armenian young scientist _____

IV. Personnel data of U.S. host scientist

- A. Full Name _____
 B. Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year) _____
 C. Highest Degree Earned _____ Field _____ Year Awarded _____
 D. Office Phone _____ Fax _____ E-mail _____
 E. Professional Title/Position _____

V. Budget requested from NFSAT (Not to exceed \$5,000)

Category	Amount Requested from NFSAT	Support from non-NFSAT sources	REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION
			Please check each item included with your application.
International Transportation			1. Proposal _____
Air Passenger Exit Duty	10,000 AMD		2. Curriculum Vitae _____
Visa Fees			3. Invitation from U.S. side _____
Per Diem (Including Lodging)			4. Endorsement from applicant's organization _____
Health Insurance **			
Ground Transportation***			
Total Amount			

VI. Signatures*

- A. Applicant: _____; Date: _____
 C. Applicant's institute director: _____; Date: _____

* By signing this application, I certify that I meet all the eligibility requirements in this announcement, and that all information provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

** Health insurance is mandatory for all travelers.

***Reimbursement up to \$50 upon presentation of receipts.