

## **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **Short Term Travel Grant Program for Armenian Young Scientists and Engineers**

The National Foundation of Science and Advanced Technologies (NFSAT) will provide up to US \$1,500 on a competitive basis to promising young scientists and engineers from the Republic of Armenia to facilitate their participation in selected meetings of scientific and engineering professional societies in countries in Europe and the Former Soviet Union (FSU). The aim of the program is to establish and strengthen scientific collaborations between the Armenian and international scientific communities. As a rule, NFSAT will support up to one participant per conference.

This competition is made possible through bank interest earned from funds provided to NFSAT by the U.S. Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) in the framework of Award #NFSAT-03-2001.

#### **Eligibility and Funding Guidelines:**

- This program is open to the following applicants in the basic, natural and applied sciences:
  - a) Undergraduate students who have completed at least three years of study;
  - b) Graduate students;
  - c) Post-graduate students up to 27 years of age who have not yet completed a PhD degree.
- All applicants must be citizens of and reside in Armenia.
- All applicants must provide confirmation from the conference organizers that they have waived conference fees and have accepted the applicant's request to make a presentation at the conference.
- All applicants must demonstrate that they will receive co-funding from other sources. Acceptable sources of support include, but are not limited to, conference organizers, scientific institutions, state budget, and other grants.
- NFSAT will give the highest priority to applications submitted by:
  - a) First-time participants in international conferences;
  - b) Applicants presenting letters from international counterparts indicating interest in pre- or post-conference meetings to discuss an area of potential scientific or engineering cooperation.

#### **Review of Applications:**

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

#### **Deadlines:**

- NFSAT will accept applications for this program on a rolling basis.
- NFSAT must receive requests for travel support at least four weeks prior to the intended date of travel.

**Applications must include:**

**REQUIRED:**

- A signed Application Form (see attached);
- A Curriculum Vitae for the applicant that includes the full name, date and place of birth, contact address, information on the applicant's education, prior and current employment, honors received, research interests, and long-term educational and professional goals (maximum 2 pages);
- A statement from the conference organizer waiving registration fees for the applicant;
- A written statement from the co-funding source confirming support for at least 20% of the total cost of travel;
- A short letter of recommendation or endorsement from the applicant's organization (it MUST contain the full name of applicant, and titles of conference and proposed presentation).

**Applications without these documents will not be considered for support.**

**OPTIONAL:**

- Copies of any invitations from international colleagues for specific pre- or post-conference meetings.

**Allowable Costs:**

- The maximum award amount is US \$1,500. No application requesting more than US \$1,500 from NFSAT will be considered.
- Proof of additional financial support from conference organizers, scientific institutions, international hosts, state budget or other sources (excluding private individuals) is strictly required for all applicants. This support must total at least 20% of the total cost of travel and can be 'in-kind support,' such as free lodging.
- The following costs are allowable under this program:
  - a. International Transportation. Lowest-cost applicable round-trip airfare.
  - b. Per Diem. Lodging and meals and incidentals.
  - c. Visa Fees. Not to exceed US \$100.
  - d. Ground Transportation. Cost of transport to and from airports. Ground transportation expenses may not exceed US \$50 and receipts are required for reimbursement.
- NFSAT will use the following standards to estimate the advance payment for travel expenses:
  - a. Lodging costs: A maximum amount of US \$120 per day may be reimbursed if the participant submits a hotel invoice with the actual lodging costs.
  - b. Meals and incidentals expenses: Applicants may request a maximum amount of US \$35 per day for FSU countries and a maximum amount of US \$45 per day for European countries.

**Amounts exceeding US \$1,500 are not subject to reimbursement by NFSAT. In such cases, additional expenses may be covered by the organization that sends the participant to the conference or by another co-funding organization.**

**Note:**

- Each grantee must submit a book of conference/workshop abstracts and a payment invoice to NFSAT in order for NFSAT to reimburse the expenses.

**Application Submission Procedures:**

- All applicants must submit their applications to NFSAT in the following manner:
- One original signed hardcopy in Armenian;
- One electronic copy in English. Electronic copies of applications in .doc, .txt, .rtf, or .pdf format should be sent to: [youngtgp@nfsat.am](mailto:youngtgp@nfsat.am).

**Applications should be sent directly to:**

Travel Grant Program  
NFSAT  
Yerevan, Ave. Azatutian, 26  
Tel: 28 81 92  
E-mail: [youngtgp@nfsat.am](mailto:youngtgp@nfsat.am)

**NFSAT SHORT TERM TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM  
 FOR ARMENIAN YOUNG SCIENTISTS  
 APPLICATION FORM**

**I. Name (as written on international passport)**

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. Have you previously visited foreign countries? \_\_\_ YES; \_\_\_ NO.  
 If YES, please provide a brief 3-4 word description of the reasons for your visit \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Conference Information**

Name of Conference \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact Information for Conference Organizers \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date(s) of Conference \_\_\_\_\_  
 Topic of Presentation \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. Pre/Post Meetings** (Please provide available contact data)

Full Name of International Contact	Affiliation and Telephone Contact	Proposed Dates of Visit

**V. Budget** (Not to exceed US \$1,500 unless proof of additional financial support is also provided)

Category	Amount Requested from NFSAT	Support Available from non-NFSAT sources	<b>REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION</b>
International Transportation			Please check each item included with your application.  1. Curriculum Vitae _____ 2. Copies of all invitations _____ 3. Letter of endorsement from applicant's organization _____ 4. Conference organizer waiver of registration fees _____ 5. Confirmation of 20% co-funding from another source _____
Air Passenger Exit Duty	10,000 AMD		
Visa Fees			
Per Diem (Including Lodging)			
Ground Transportation**			
Total (Amount Requested from NFSAT)			

VI. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature\* \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

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

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NFSAT staff signature

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_