Environmental Research Fellowship

**Guidelines**

## COVID-19 Advisory

Tufts Institute of the Environment (TIE) acknowledges the difficulties involved with predicting upcoming research activities in the current time. TIE will follow the guidelines and protocols instituted by Tufts University regarding approved funding allocations and research activities. These can be found at: <https://coronavirus.tufts.edu/>. Travel and on-campus lab access are two examples of research activities that have been affected by Tufts’ COVID-19 protocols. Please seek guidance on whether your proposed project may be affected by future measures Tufts may have in place, and please develop your project accordingly. You may choose to describe a “best-case” and a “worst-case” scenario for your project approach.

## About Tufts Institute of the Environment

Tufts Institute of the Environment (TIE) is an interdisciplinary university-wide institute that initiates and promotes environmental education, research, and outreach toward a sustainable future.

## About the Fellowship

The TIE Environmental Research Fellowship aims to:

* Encourage interdisciplinary collaborations that lead to better solutions to environmental problems;
* Develop cross-university relationships between student, staff, and faculty researchers;
* Provide greater visibility and recognition for exceptional graduate students and their environmental work; and,
* Financially support Tufts University graduate students in conducting various forms of environmental research.

## Benefits of the Fellowship

TIE Fellows join a cohort of more than 100 Tufts students/alumni who have participated in this fellowship since 2002. Some of the benefits and opportunities of this Fellowship include:

* Pursue individual research interests that may complement Tufts’ academic requirements
* Gain mentorship and guidance from Tufts faculty and TIE staff to help build research expertise
* Build skills and expand professional networks through Fellowship activities
* Secure funding of up to $5,000 to cover research costs

## Eligibility for Application

To be eligible for the fellowship program, applicants must be:

* Currently matriculated in a Tufts University graduate school;
* Continuing their studies into the upcoming semester or academic year; and,
* Committed to undertaking the proposed research and Fellowship activities.

## Research Project Criteria

The research proposed must:

* Directly relate to TIE’s mission of promoting timely and important interdisciplinary environmental research;
* Be achievable within the timeline and budget of the proposal;
* Include faculty mentors from at least **two** different schools or departments, in order to strengthen the interdisciplinary nature of the research project;
* Be independent of on-going projects of faculty members (i.e. the project should be initiated, conducted, and completed by the applicant); and
* Have all IRB or IACUC approvals and permits (if applicable) in place before the research begins.

## Fellowship Completion Requirements

The TIE Fellowship runs from April to April each year and is designed to entail 6-8 weeks of intensive research over the summer. This is followed by collaborative activities in the fall and spring semesters. Students generally conduct their research over the summer, however alternate timing may be considered. Aside from conducting your research, over this year-long period you will also:

* **Attend** all required events, including: orientations, a retreat, workshops, presentations
* **Submit** a *poster* of your Fellowship’s preliminary results at one of the Fall Fellowship events
* **Present** your Fellowship research to the greater Tufts community in the Fall or Spring semester
* **Submit** a*final report* in your Fellowship’s concluding semester which includes the final results of your project (\*A publication, thesis, or dissertation encompassing your fellowship research may be accepted in lieu of a unique fellowship final report)

Funding

Up to $5,000 per student is available to cover costs related to equipment, supplies, travel, and stipend. Of this total funding, up to $3,000 can be allocated as a personal, living stipend.

## Selection Process

* Applicants are selected by an interdisciplinary selection committee comprised of Tufts faculty.
* TIE reserves the right to adjust the requested budgets of successful applicants when offering Fellowship awards.
* Upon acceptance of the TIE Fellowship funds awarded, the recipient agrees to fulfill the objectives of the proposed project. Changes to the project and to the budget must be approved by your faculty mentors and TIE.

All application materials, including the application form and application FAQs can be found at: [environment.tufts.edu/funding/fellowships](http://environment.tufts.edu/funding/fellowships/)

If you have questions, please contact jill.parlee@tufts.edu