

---

# NWRI

## NATIONAL WATER RESEARCH INSTITUTE 2012-2013 Fellowship Application Details and Procedures

---

*The NWRI Fellowship program is underwritten by the Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clarke Foundation, NWRI Agency Members, NWRI Corporate Associates, NWRI Partners, and NWRI's Circle of Friends Program. NWRI is very grateful for the support provided through these partnerships.*

### NWRI Fellowship Sponsors

- **Joan Irvine Smith and Athalie R. Clarke Foundation**
- **NWRI Agency Members**
  - Inland Empire Utilities Association
  - Irvine Ranch Water District
  - Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
  - Orange County Water District
  - Orange County Sanitation District
  - West Basin Municipal Water District
- **NWRI Corporate Associates**
  - Black & Veatch
  - Carollo Engineers
  - CDM
  - CH2M HILL
  - Kennedy/Jenks Consultants
  - ARCADIS Malcolm Pirnie
  - MWH
  - United Water-Suez
- **NWRI Circle of Friends**
  - Mrs. Patricia Linsky
  - And more
- **NWRI Partners**
  - American Membrane Technologies Association
  - Southern California Salinity Coalition

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Application Deadline: **5:00 pm Pacific on Wednesday, April 25, 2012**

Award Announcement Timeline: **September 2012**

Award Distribution: **October-November 2012**

## OVERVIEW OF THE NWRI FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Under the Fellowship Program, the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) of Fountain Valley, Calif., awards fellowships to support master's or doctoral graduate research related to:

- Water science and technology.
- Water resources.
- Water policy.

Research must pertain to NWRI's mission statement, *which is to create new sources of water through research and technology and to protect the freshwater and marine environments.*

Research areas include, but are not limited to, engineering, physical and chemical sciences, biological sciences, health sciences, political sciences, economics, and planning and public policy that are related to water and/or water resources.

### **NOTES ON ELIGIBILITY**

You do not have to be a U.S. citizen to receive a fellowship from NWRI, but you must be enrolled fulltime at a U.S. college or university, and the bulk of your research must be conducted in the U.S. (there are no exceptions).

Post-doctoral researchers are not eligible to receive a fellowship from NWRI.

The following fellowships are being offered for the 2012-2013 academic school year:

- NWRI Fellowships
- NWRI-AMTA Fellowships for Membrane Technology
- NWRI-Southern California Salinity Coalition Fellowship

## DETAILS OF OFFERED FELLOWSHIPS

### **NWRI Fellowship**

- Length of Award: 1 to 2 years  
Amount of Award: Up to \$5,000 a year  
Number Awarded: Up to four fellowships awarded in 2012  
Requirements: Research must pertain to developing and/or enhancing water supplies. Research topics include (but are not limited to):
- Recycled water
  - Treatment technologies
  - Water and energy nexus
  - Sustainability
  - Exploratory research
  - Desalination
  - Policy and regulation

*Specialty Fellowships:*

**NWRI-AMTA Fellowships for Membrane Technology**

Length of Award: 2 years

Amount of Award: \$10,000 a year

Number Awarded: Two fellowships will be awarded in 2012

Partner: American Membrane Technology Association (AMTA)  
([www.amtaorg.com](http://www.amtaorg.com))

Requirements: Research must pertain to the advancement of membrane technology in the water, wastewater, or water reuse industries. The research must be consistent with AMTA's vision statement: "Solving water supply and quality issues through the widespread application of membrane technology." Possible areas of study are:

- Innovative membrane treatment technologies
- Use of advanced materials
- Membrane bioreactors (MBRs)
- Membrane fouling/scaling control
- Membrane removal efficiency
- Membrane pretreatment
- Improved feedwater recovery
- Reduced energy consumption

**NWRI-Southern California Salinity Coalition Fellowship**

Length of Award: 2 years

Amount of Award: \$10,000 a year

Number Awarded: One fellowship will be awarded in 2012.

Partner: Southern California Salinity Coalition ([www.socalsalinity.org](http://www.socalsalinity.org))

Limitations: This fellowship is awarded to students in Southern California universities/colleges only.

Requirements: Research must address the critical need to remove or reduce salts from water supplies and to preserve water resources in Southern California. Examples of research interests include (but are not limited to):

- Concentrate management
- Institutional and regulatory issues
- Economics of reducing salinity levels
- Innovative treatment technologies
- Regional and watershed planning solutions
- Public education and awareness

## APPLICATION PACKAGE

There is one set of procedures to apply for an NWRI Fellowship. The application must include:

<b>Application Item</b>		<b>Format</b>	<b>Delivery</b>
1	NWRI Fellowship Application Cover Sheet and Checklist	PDF	Applicant to email to NWRI
2	Letter of Inquiry Describing Your Research Goals	PDF	
3	Current Resume	PDF	
4	Short, Original Research Proposal	PDF	
5	Letter of Endorsement from Faculty Advisor	PDF	
6	Official School Transcripts	PDF, if possible; otherwise, printed copy	The preference is that the applicant email transcripts to NWRI; however, the school may send to NWRI directly

### **1. NWRI FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION COVER SHEET AND CHECKLIST.**

The “NWRI Fellowship Application Cover Sheet and Check List” is available as a download on NWRI’s website at [www.nwri-usa.org/fellowship.htm](http://www.nwri-usa.org/fellowship.htm).

### **2. A LETTER OF INQUIRY DESCRIBING YOUR RESEARCH GOALS.**

The letter of inquiry (formal letter format) should be 1 to 2 pages in length, single-spaced, at 12-point font size. The letter may be addressed to: **NWRI Fellowship Committee**.

The letter of inquiry must include the following information:

- Your NAME.
- Your YEAR (for instance, second-year Ph.D.; first-year M.S.), MAJOR and DEPARTMENT, and UNIVERSITY.
- Your expected GRADUATION DATE.
- Your ADVISOR’s name and complete CONTACT information.
- A brief BACKGROUND about yourself, including:
  - What past experiences focused your attention/interest on water resources.
  - What interested in you specifically in this research.
- The TITLE of your research project.
- A SUMMARY of your research project.
- DESCRIBE the following:
  - The importance of this research to you and to the water community.
  - How your research will contribute to water science in general.
  - What you expect to accomplish.
- DESCRIBE how your research pertains to NWRI's mission to create new sources of water through research and technology and to protect the freshwater and marine environments
- DISCUSS your research budget, including:
  - Overall amount budgeted.
  - Amount the Fellowship is expected to cover.
  - How the Fellowship monies will be used and how this fits in the total scheme of your research.

- If the Fellowship is not covering the total costs of the budget, by what means will you be funding the overall budget.

### 3. A CURRENT RESUME (WITH COMPLETE CONTACT INFORMATION).

In your resume, please include your permanent mailing address, as well as a current telephone number and email address where we can reach you during business hours.

### 4. A SHORT, ORIGINAL RESEARCH PROPOSAL (WITH TITLE).

The research proposal must be no more than 3 pages in length, single-spaced, at 12-point font size. In those 3 pages, you may include tables, figures, photos, and references, if necessary (no appendices, please). The proposal must include:

- Your name and project's title.
- Your project's hypothesis and goals/objectives.
- The need for your research.
- Originality/uniqueness of your research.
- Greater good/ramifications of your research.
- Research approach.
- Timetable on the duration of your project.
- Estimated budget in table format, which can include:
  - Your labor/stipend rate (if it pertains to your research).
  - Any other awards/support you are receiving on your project (do not include the fellowship award from NWRI).
  - Cost of equipment.
  - Cost of materials and supplies.
  - Cost of travel for conferences, field work, etc. (do not include NWRI meetings).
  - Costs of training (courses needed/school tuition, etc).
  - Other costs, if necessary.

*Please do not include administrative overhead charges (indirect costs) in the budget. NWRI has a longstanding policy that overhead charges may not be charged against the Fellowship award for student support.*

An example budget is provided below:

<b>Example Estimated Budget*</b>			
<b>Expense</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Labor/Stipend Costs (annual rate)			
Equipment Costs			
Materials and Supplies			
Training (Tuition fees)			
Travel (Conferences, etc.)			
Total Costs			
Other Awards Being Received			

*\* Note that this example budget is only a general guide for what type of items you should include in your budget. It is to your advantage to be as detailed as possible when preparing your budget.*

## 5. A LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT FROM YOUR FACULTY ADVISOR (WITH ADVISOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION AND ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE).

The letter of endorsement may be addressed to: **NWRI Fellowship Committee.**

This endorsement letter is vital to the selection process and is often the determining factor in selecting fellowship awardees; therefore, it is imperative that advisors address the following items in the 1- to 2-page letter:

- The originality and technical merit of the proposed research.
- The student's preparation to undertake the proposed research.
- The prospects for successful completion.
- The resources and support this student and/or research is receiving, including:
  - The facilities, personnel, and equipment available.
  - Financial support and institutional commitment by the University.
  - Any other awards or fellowships that the student has or will receive pertaining to this research. *Please note that having additional fellowships or scholarships does not affect eligibility to receive a Fellowship.*
  - Detailed description of how NWRI Fellowship funding will be leveraged.\*\*

***\*\*A Fellowship from NWRI is a special award to be given on top of existing funding. It is not intended to replace existing funding. That is, the NWRI funding is intended to enhance the student's current resources and support.***

To be considered for a fellowship, all the required items must be addressed in the advisor's letter.

**Note to Advisors: If you are currently receiving funding from NWRI or the Southern California Salinity Coalition (SCSC) for a research project, your students may be ineligible to apply for a Fellowship from NWRI.**

NWRI does not provide Fellowship funding to graduate students working on the same research project of a Principal Investigator receiving funding from NWRI or SCSC. However, students working on research not related to the NWRI- or SCSC-funded project may apply for a Fellowship. *It would be in the student's best interest to clarify that the student's research is not related to an NWRI or SCSC project in both the letter of inquiry and in the advisor's endorsement letter.*

These endorsement letters should be provided as a PDF with an electronic signature. Students may submit their advisor's letter with their application package, provided the letter has the advisor's electronic signature.

## 6. OFFICIAL SCHOOL TRANSCRIPTS (IN ENGLISH) FOR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE DEGREES (INCLUDING INTERNATIONAL).

Transcripts are needed of your undergraduate and graduate studies (including the university you are currently studying at). These documents may be mailed by the appropriate universities or, preferably, scanned and emailed to NWRI as part of the application. For universities outside the U.S., transcripts must be provided in English. Transcripts must arrive no later than April 25.

## **SUBMISSION PROCESS**

All applications must arrive at NWRI by email on or by **5:00 pm Pacific on April 25, 2012**, to qualify for a fellowship. Any application that arrives after April 25, is incomplete (without all items), or is sent by fax will be disqualified.

### **By Email**

The following items must be emailed to NWRI in PDF format:

1. NWRI Fellowship Application Cover Sheet and Checklist
2. Letter of Inquiry Describing Your Research Goals
3. Current Resume
4. Short, Original Research Proposal
5. Letter of Endorsement from Faculty Advisor (with an electronic signature)

**A single PDF of all these items is preferred**, but they may also be provided as separate PDFs.

Please email your application to [fellow@nwri-usa.org](mailto:fellow@nwri-usa.org) with the following specifications:

*To:* [fellow@nwri-usa.org](mailto:fellow@nwri-usa.org)  
*From:* Your email address  
*Subject:* 2011-2012 Fellowship Application Material [Your Name]  
Please include your name and contact information within the body of the email.

### **By Mail**

Official school transcripts may be mailed to NWRI, though we prefer you scan and email them along with the rest of your application.

For U.S. Postal Mail Services:  
National Water Research Institute  
Attn: Fellowship Program  
18700 Ward Street  
P.O. Box 8096  
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-8096

For Federal Express:  
National Water Research Institute  
Attn: Fellowship Program  
18700 Ward Street  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708  
Phone: 714-378-3278

## **DETAILS & REQUIREMENTS**

Fellowship awardees will be announced by September 2012. Recipients will be contacted by phone and/or email informing them of the award. A follow-up letter with detailed information about the reward amount and fellowship terms will be provided. All fellowship monies will be sent directly to the university.

Selections and awards made by NWRI and the Fellowship Selection Committee shall be final.

The following requirement is expected of Fellowship recipients:

- You must be continuously enrolled as a fulltime graduate student with the university.

In addition, we would be interested in receiving electronic copies of your publications, such as journal articles and your thesis or dissertation.

Some fellowships are renewable, based upon adequate progress and applicability. To ensure your Fellowship is renewed for the following year:

- Your advisor must provide a letter to NWRI by June 1 expressing that you have good standing in your program at the university.
- You must demonstrate measurable progress in your research. As such, we expect you to provide short (1-2 page) progress reports twice a year to NWRI. The reports are expected to arrive electronically before April 1 and October 1 of each school year.

**For further information, please visit the “Fellowship” section of our website at [www.NWRI-usa.org/Fellowship.htm](http://www.NWRI-usa.org/Fellowship.htm)**

**National Water Research Institute  
18700 Ward Street  
P.O. Box 8096  
Fountain Valley, CA 92728-8096  
Phone: 714-378-3278  
Email: [fellow@nwri-usa.org](mailto:fellow@nwri-usa.org)**