

GAANN Fellowship Grant
awarded to the
Graduate Program in Ecology and Evolution
at Rutgers University!



The Graduate Program in Ecology and Evolution at Rutgers University has been awarded five graduate fellowships funded by a Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) grant from the U. S. Department of Education. The training theme of this grant is ecology and evolution in urbanized environments, including cities themselves and the extensive terrestrial and aquatic environments affected by them. As the world is becoming increasingly urbanized, and because humanity depends on biodiversity and ecosystem services for survival, an increased understanding of the ecology and evolution of urbanization is emerging as one of the more pressing challenges of the 21st century.

The GAANN grant will provide Ph.D. fellowship funding for students enrolled in the Graduate Program in Ecology and Evolution. The fellowship program includes research, a course sequence, and a supervised experience in pedagogical techniques.

All interested and qualified applicants will be considered for GAANN Fellowships.

About the fellowship:

Fellowship Stipend: Successful candidates will receive a GAANN Fellowship of \$30,000* for their first year of graduate study. They will also receive full tuition and student fees. Subject to satisfactory academic performance and the availability of federal funds, students may re-apply for second and third year funding on the GAANN fellowship. Students will continue to receive financial support (in the form of a teaching assistantship, fellowship or graduate assistantship) for a total of five years, or until completion of their Ph.D. (whichever comes first).

*This amount may be adjusted so as not to exceed the fellow's demonstrated level of financial need (as calculated for purposes of the Federal student financial aid programs under Title IV, part F of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended).

Academic Standing: Fellows must maintain full-time status in the Ecology and Evolution Ph.D. Program. Fellows must be engaged in full-time coursework or research during the summer.

Eligibility: GAANN requires that an academic department shall consider only individuals who:

- Are currently enrolled as graduate students or have been accepted at the grantee institution;
- Have an excellent academic record;
- Have financial need;
- Are planning to pursue the highest possible degree available in their course of study (in our case, a Ph.D.);
- Are planning a career in teaching or research;
- Are not ineligible to receive financial assistance under 34 CFR 75.60 (in default on a Federal loan); and
- Are citizens, nationals, or permanent residents of the United States; provide evidence from the Immigration and Naturalization Service that they are in the United States for other than a temporary purpose with the intention of becoming permanent residents; or are citizens of any one of the Freely Associated States (the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau).

We particularly encourage applications from students from traditionally underrepresented groups.

Application Procedure:

To apply for a GAANN Fellowship, you must:

- Submit an [application for graduate school](#) at Rutgers University.
- Specify the Ecology and Evolution graduate program. Applications for admission in the fall 2014 are due January 10.
- In your personal statement, explain in detail why you would be a good fit for the GAANN Fellowship.
- Provide evidence of financial need by submitting a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You can complete the FAFSA online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. In step 6 of the FAFSA, enter 002629 for the Federal School Code for Rutgers. We urge you to submit this form as soon as possible to expedite your application.