

TESSE Graduate Fellowship Application – 2009/10

The Joan and James Leitzel Center for Mathematics, Science and Engineering Education at the University of New Hampshire, in collaboration with faculty from the Department of Earth Sciences and the Institute for Earth, Oceans and Space (EOS), has funding from the National Science Foundation (GEO-0631377) for ***GEO-Teach: Transforming Earth System Science Education (TESSE)***. The TESSE project is a working partnership between UNH, Dillard University, Elizabeth City State University, and Pennsylvania State University. TESSE Graduate Fellowships are available for students active in disciplines related to Earth science.

Support: TESSE Fellowships carry a one year term with \$25,000 stipend plus UNH tuition and support for mandatory graduate student health care coverage.

Expectations:

Summer: Participate in a two-week Summer Institute course that will include UNH project faculty and staff and selected in-service and pre-service teachers mostly from the New England region.

Academic Year: Fellows are expected to make progress on their own research and are expected to spend approximately (but no more than) 20 hours per week (on average) performing the following functions.

- Working and communicating with middle or high school teachers and their students, two days each week, as a Science Liaison to the classroom, to develop and teach curricula in contemporary issues of Earth Science;
- Participate in bi-weekly meetings with UNH TESSE faculty/staff during the Academic Year.

Qualifications: All applicants must be accepted into an Earth Science related graduate degree program and have strong Earth Science backgrounds or be conducting research in Earth System Science related fields. It is recommended that graduate students are beyond their first year of graduate study so their research projects are underway and students have experience with juggling coursework, research, and other commitments. There are no citizenship restrictions or requirements on these awards. Additional desirable applicant qualifications include

- Knowledge of university resources and scientific career pathways
- Strong research design skills; possibly via undergraduate or graduate projects or both
- Interest in future post-secondary teaching with demonstration of communication skills
- Participation in the Teaching Excellence (<http://unh.edu/teaching-excellence/>) and Preparing Future Faculty Programs (<http://www.gradschool.unh.edu/pff/pffprogram.html>)
- Demonstrated ability to work alone and with large groups
- Professional dedication, including a firm commitment to complete the one-year term of the fellowship if selected



How to Apply: Interested students should submit application materials (listed below) to the UNH Leitzel Center, 138 Parsons Hall by **February 27, 2009**. The TESSE project team will review all applications and interview candidates as necessary. Awardees will be notified by March 13, 2009. Appointments will commence on May 25, 2009 but introductory meetings and other events will be held earlier.

Application Materials:

1. A statement by the student of his or her interest in combining their research activities with teaching and outreach experiences at the secondary school level (two pages or less).
2. Copies of undergraduate and graduate (unofficial) transcripts, CV, and other evidence of background and accomplishments, such as GRE results or relevant employment experience.
3. A letter of endorsement and support from the student's UNH faculty advisor that addresses the requirements set out above including the commitment of student to the fellowship term from May 25, 2009 through May 21, 2010.
4. If the student is a candidate for admission to UNH, a copy of the UNH graduate application materials may be substituted for item (2) above.

Additional Information: An information session will be held Thursday evening at 5:00pm February 5, 2009 in where Kingsbury W390, where students interested in the program can learn more about the program, meet program participants, and ask questions. For further information or questions please email or call Erik Froburg (erik.froburg@unh.edu; (603) 862-0297). Also, visit the TESSE website at <http://leitzelcenter.unh.edu/geo-teach/index.html>.