

BGS Policy Governing Student Participation in Extramural Activities Relevant to Career Exploration: Meetings, Externships, and Internships

Predocutorial training provided through BGS creates the opportunity for highly productive careers in science, technology, and medicine. A student's decision as to what kind of career best fits him or her is ideally integrated with the process of training itself. Career-related meetings, externships (e.g., shadowing), and internships can be especially valuable in this regard.

Outlined here are the support and requirements for activities that relate to the exploration of careers apart from academic research but for which biomedical training nonetheless provides a competitive advantage. Activities relating to job interviews, formal training, scientific meetings, job fairs, and collaborations are not addressed here.

Support requires the student to have passed his or her candidacy exam and to be conducting thesis research. Support includes:

- Travel, accommodations, and fees for one (i.e., in the course of training) career-related meeting or comparable event, in an amount up to \$500.
- Travel and associated training expenses for one career-related externship, not to exceed 2 weeks, in an amount up to \$500; stipend support will be provided through mechanisms that already exist for the student.
- Travel for one career-related internship, not to exceed 3 months, in an amount up to \$500. Stipend and associated training expenses must be provided by the sponsoring entity.

The student is responsible for identifying the activity. In this regard, BGS will compile and share a list of activities pursued previously by other students or that otherwise come to light.

Advance approval is contingent on a process of application, which entails:

- A description of, and rationale for, the activity.
- Sign-offs by the thesis advisor(s) and graduate group chair, and sign-off by the thesis committee chair as well for internships. It is vital that the time taken for the activity will not substantially impact the momentum of the thesis research.

The student will provide to BGS following the activity a written summary to be used in the above-mentioned compilation.

Details regarding advance notice, terms of reimbursement, intellectual property, etc., are provided on the approval form.