

**UC Berkeley
Global Development Fellows (GDF) Program
Information for Faculty**

What is GDF?

UC Berkeley's Global Development Fellows (GDF) program provides graduate students (Masters and PhDs) with flat \$7,500 summer fellowships to pursue an 8-12 week action-research activity for a host organization in a country where USAID operates¹. This can include existing "opportunities" listed in the USAID's Research and Innovation Fellowship catalog (<https://www.rifellowships.org/catalog>) **but partner organizations of the faculty of participating universities (including UC Berkeley) can apply to be included in the catalog. If desired, their opportunity can be restricted to only UC Berkeley students or even to a specific student.**

What type of opportunity?

Opportunities can be from any sector but should have an applied research focus and be linked to USAID's objective of tapping university expertise and knowledge to contribute to sustainable solutions to global development challenges.

What type of organization can qualify to host a GDF Fellow?

Hosts are universities, private sector corporations, research institutions, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations, focused on the goals of promoting initiatives and research relevant to international development.

How to get a partner organization's opportunity listed in the RI-Fellowship Catalog?

UC Berkeley faculty interested in GDF fellowship support for a student to work with a partner organization in a country where USAID operates should work with that partner to have the opportunity listed in the catalog. The application is online using the following link: <https://www.usaid.gov/RIFellowships/host-institutions>. An example of a submitted host opportunity is available here:

https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/15396/2013-11-1Example_RIFellowship_Host_Opportunity.pdf. IMPORTANT: Before approving an opportunity, USAID will consult the GDF Program Director, George Scharffenberger, to ask whether the organization and opportunity have local support. For that reason, sending George a draft of the Host Application before it is submitted is strongly encouraged. In any event, once it has been submitted, an email should be sent to berkeleymdp@gmail.com with a copy of the application text and an indication of whether the opportunity is 1) open to qualified graduate students from

¹ Countries where USAID works are listed here: <https://www.usaid.gov/where-we-work>. Certain countries/portions of countries, including those with a State Department Travel Warning (<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>), may be excluded.

any of the six universities participating in the RI-Fellowship program, 2) open to any grad student from UC Berkeley, or 3) open to only a specified student. If 3), include the name.

Who Qualifies for a GDF Fellowship?

Any UCB grad student in good standing may apply. Due to funding restrictions, however, funding for non-US citizens is limited to opportunities focused on food, agriculture and the environment.

Applying for GDF Funding

Having an opportunity accepted in the USAID RI-Fellowship catalog **does not** guarantee GDF funding. Students will need to apply for a GDF Fellowship prior to the deadline (**January 13, 2017**). Info on applying for GDF is available here: <https://mdp.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/gdfapplication.pdf>.

Fellowship Decisions

GDF applications will be reviewed by a committee of UC Berkeley Faculty and GDF staff. Under the terms of the cooperative agreement, USAID must then approve the committee's recommendations. Fellowship offers are expected o/a February 8th.

GDF Pre-Departure Program

As a condition of the fellowship, Fellows are required to participate in a 5-session pre-departure preparation program that will include support in refining scopes of work, development of work plans, consulting skills and a health and safety orientation. The dates for these mandatory sessions are listed in this ppt from a recent GDF Information Session: <http://mdp.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/GDF-2017-info-session.pptx>.

Questions? Email: berkeleymdp@gmail.com