

Title: Examination of the role of dehumanization as a potential mechanism underlying the racial disparities in school disciplinary measures

Fellowship Name: National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

Fellowship Selection Criteria: The Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) awards Fellowships for graduate study leading to research-based master's and doctoral degrees in STEM or in STEM education. GRFP supports individuals proposing a comprehensive holistic plan for graduate education that takes into account individual interests and competencies. A holistic plan describes the experiences, attributes, and academic achievements that, when considered in combination, show how the applicant has demonstrated potential for significant research achievements in STEM or in STEM education. Thus, an applicant must provide a detailed profile of her or his relevant educational and research experiences and plans for graduate education in such a way as to demonstrate this potential for significant achievements. Prospective applicants are advised that submission of an application implies their intent to pursue graduate study in a research-based program in STEM or STEM education. All applicants are expected to either be enrolled in a research based master's or 5 doctoral program or have adequate preparation to begin graduate-level study and research by summer or fall of the year the award is accepted. <https://www.nsfgrfp.org/> | <https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2016/nsf16588/nsf16588.pdf>

Merit Review Criteria: All GRFP applications are evaluated using NSF's two merit review criteria: **Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts**. The **Intellectual Merit** criterion encompasses the potential to advance knowledge. Additionally, the **Broader Impacts** criterion encompasses the potential to benefit society and contribute to the achievement of specific, desired societal outcomes.

https://www.nsfgrfp.org/applicants/application_components/merit_review_criteria

During the Fellowship:

For my NSF grant, I proposed studies that serve as both the basis of my master's thesis, and the foundation for a program of research aimed at reducing racial disparities in school disciplinary measures and improving Black students' school lives. During the fellowship, I will collect data for my master's thesis using both correlational and experimental studies. In Study 1, I will investigate whether and how dehumanization of Black students is associated with disciplinary measures against Black students in the general population. In Study 2, I will experimentally examine whether and how dehumanization of Black students causes harsher disciplinary measures against Black students in a sample of future teachers.