



Transition Support Grants

Information for Application Fall 2004

The ADVANCE Program of the Earth Institute at Columbia University will award partial salary support for research assistance for women scientists in the Earth Institute during periods in which they are forced to limit their research time because of family life transitions such as childbirth, adoption, or eldercare responsibilities. This award is intended to assist women scientists in maintaining their research productivity during these common transitions. Transition Support Grants are not intended to provide supplemental support for family care. Transition Support Grants will provide partial support for a post-doctoral scientist, research assistant, or adjunct professor each year who will assist women scientists in their ongoing research projects during a period when they are unable to work full time or will take over teaching responsibilities so that a faculty member can focus on her research. The award of these funds is intended to ensure that the pace of research does not diminish, and that women scientists facing family transitions can continue their research activities even when their own research or teaching time is severely limited due to family or life transitions.

What is ADVANCE? Funded by a five-year, \$4.2 million National Science Foundation (NSF) award, the Columbia University ADVANCE Program at the Earth Institute (EI) is targeted at increasing the participation and advancement of women scientists and engineers in the academy through institutional transformation. The five goals of the EI ADVANCE Program are to (1) change the gender demographics of EI scientists and engineers through intelligent hiring practices, (2) provide support to women scientists through difficult life transitions, including elder care and adoption or birth of a child, (3) enhance mentoring and networking opportunities, (4) implement transparent promotion procedures and policies, and (5) conduct an institutional self-study. Earth Institute ADVANCE programs include (a) a comprehensive survey of university faculty (b) a senior faculty working group that enhances recruitment and retention by providing support for searches and faculty development, (c) internal and external funding competitions designed to recruit and retain women scientists and engineers, and (d) focused workshops and conferences.

Who Is Eligible to Apply for a Transition Support Grant? Women scientists in the Earth Institute who have active research grants and who are unable to devote the

necessary time to their research because of the responsibilities of family life transitions such as childbirth, adoption, or eldercare responsibilities.

What Does the Transition Support Grant Entail? The Transition Support Grant provides supplemental support to women scientists to enable them to obtain assistance in research and teaching when their capacity to devote time to research is limited.

Selection Criteria. Transition Support Grants will be based on need. Award decisions will be made by the Executive Committee of the Earth Institute's ADVANCE Program.

Application Procedure. Applications for a Transition Support Grant are accepted three times each year. They are due in the ADVANCE Program Office on January 15, April 15, or August 15, 2005. Awardees will be notified within a month, or by February 15, May 15, or September 15, 2005. Each applicant must submit a two-page proposal that includes information about the nature and timing of the transition event that is limiting the scientist's ability to conduct her research or teaching and a summary of the research that will be carried out with the supplemental research funding. The proposal should also provide a budget request showing the total amount of supplemental research or teaching assistance requested under the Transition Support program.

Research units in the Earth Institute (www.earth.columbia.edu) include:

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO)

www.ldeo.columbia.edu

Center for International Earth Science
Information Network (CIESIN)

www.ciesin.columbia.edu

International Research Institute (IRI) for Climate
Prediction

iri.columbia.edu

Center for Rivers and Estuaries

www.ldeo.columbia.edu/res/pi/Hudson/

Center for Nonlinear Earth Systems (CNES)

www.ldeo.columbia.edu/~einat/CNES/CNES_home.html

The Black Rock Forest

www.blackrockforest.org

Center for Environmental Research and
Conservation (CERC)

www.cerc.columbia.edu

Columbia University/UNESCO Joint Program
on Biosphere and Society (CUBES)

www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/cubes/

The Earth Engineering Center

www.seas.columbia.edu/earth/index.html

Center for Global Health and Economic
Development

www.cghed.columbia.edu

Center for Globalization and Sustainable
Development (CGSD)

www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/cgsd

Center for Economy, Environment & Society
(CEES)

www.earth.columbia.edu/about/aboutcees.html

Program on Science, Technology, and Global
Development;

www.earth.columbia.edu/cgsd/res_byinstitution/pstgd.html

Center for the Study of Science and Religion
(CSSR)

www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr/

Laboratory of Populations

www.rockefeller.edu/labheads/cohenje/cohenpro.htm

Center on Capitalism and Society

www.earth.columbia.edu/ccs/

NASA-Goddard Institute for Space Studies

www.giss.nasa.gov/

Tropical Agriculture Research Program

www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/tropag/

The Center for Hazards and Risk Research
(CHRR)

www.ldeo.columbia.edu/chrr

Participating departments of Columbia University include Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology (E3B, Arts and Sciences); Earth and Environmental Engineering (DEEE, Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Sciences); Department of Environmental Health (Mailman School of Public Health); Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (DEES, Arts and Sciences); Department of International and Public Affairs (Arts and Sciences); Barnard College Department of Environmental Science.

For further information, contact the ADVANCE Program Office.

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