GLOBAL FIELD EXPERIENCE (GFEFA) FINANCIAL AWARD APPLICATION PROCESS FOR 2020

October 17, 2019
AGENDA

• Introductions
• Alleviate GFE/GFEFA confusion
• The Application **Process**
• Panel
• Q&A
• Next Steps
ALLEVIATE GFE CONFUSION

• GFEFA is a term that gets confusing

• GFEFA is the shorthand for the Global Field Experience Financial Awards – funding source

• Many students participate in U.S. or non U.S. field experiences that are not funded by the GFE financial awards.

• These experiences may count as Applied Practice Experiences (APE) when they meet the APE requirements for graduation. But, we don’t decide that, your APE advisor does. Questions? Ask your ADAP.

• So GFE financial awards – GFEFA- are money; a global field experience is just that – an experience.

• You are responsible for identifying your project, we don’t find it for you.
GFE FINANCIAL AWARD

- Started circa 1995
- Endowment fund dependent upon financial returns
- Estimated funds available each summer = ~$120,000
- Recent year awards ranged from $1500-$2500

GFEFA CANNOT FUND EVERYTHING!

- Awards made possible by:
  Philip S. Brachman, Sr., M.D., Dr. and Mrs. William H. Foege, Dorothy and Stanley O. Foster, Eugene J. and Rose Salamone Gangarosa, Richard and Linda Hubert and the Hubert Foundation, Carol and Carlos Martel, and Don E. Sokolik, MD and Kathleen Sokolik.
RELATIONSHIP TO GHI (OR OTHER FUNDING SOURCES)

- GFEFA and EGHI Field Scholars are separate programs.
- EGHI funds are for multi-school and multidisciplinary teams. See [www.globalhealth.emory.edu](http://www.globalhealth.emory.edu) for further information.
  - EGHI Field Scholars Networking night – **Tuesday, November 5 from 6-8 pm in Multi Room 1/N101 of the Emory Student Center**
  - If teams or individuals receive EGHI funds, they cannot receive GFE funds.
- Faculty and other public health agencies sometimes fund summer research or global field experiences.
DATES FOR 2019-2020

October 17, 2019 – Information Session

Nov-Dec 2019 – Application opens online

Ongoing - Review application with your faculty member. And have them sign-off on required form no later than February 19.

February 20, 2019 5:00 PM – Applications due

March 6, 2019 – First tier notification letters will be sent.

March 20, 2019; 5:00 PM – Deadline to re-submit applications that require revisions.

March 27 – Final notification letters will be sent.

Spring online and in-person, TBD – Pre-departure training (mandatory)
THE APPLICATION PROCESS

reflect
apply
explore
consult
plan
STEP 1 - REFLECT

The Big Picture

• Take a few moments to reflect on why you are pursuing public health studies in the first place.

• What are you passionate about?

• How does public health fit in your life story? How will your time at RSPH fit, or divert from, your previous studies, work experience, volunteering and life experience?

• Where do you see yourself in three years (job setting/location; type of work; hobbies, interests)? Where do you see yourself in five years? Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Reflection slides adapted from Dabney Evans, PhD.
REFLECTION CONTINUED

• Think about what you want to learn?
• Think about what skills you have to offer?
• Describe your “dream” project

• **Who** you will be working with (population and agency type e.g. international NGO, CBO);
• **What** kinds of activities you will be doing (e.g. primary data collection, evaluation, education);
• **Where** you will be working (geography and setting; and
• **Why** (what is the end of goal of the overall project/may be the same as your overall career mission).

• Then begin to prioritize, what is most important:
  • The setting?
  • The population?
  • The topic?
  • The methods/skills to develop?
STEP 2 – EXPLORE AND IDENTIFY PROJECT

A GFE Project must be an applied public health field experience in a low or middle income country of value to the community and the student.

Opportunities and ideas are everywhere!

- Talk to students and faculty
- Past GFEFA awardee project summaries at: http://web1.sph.emory.edu/GlobalFieldExp/GFE-Web/index.php
- Faculty or guest lecturers
- Search Handshake
- Search practicum/APE database by topics, populations, etc. https://www.sph.emory.edu/rollins-life/community-engaged-learning/practicum/find-a-practicum/index.html
- Search international agencies
- Search for ideas and connect to faculty advisor

NOTE: Not all previous projects qualify for GFEFA (exclusions: third-party public health tourism, medical/clinical shadowing, work in a lab or on data sets with no clear reason why global setting is relevant, etc.).

Also, if continuing work from previous GFEFA projects, be sure to reference that in the proposal and build from what has been done from previous GFEFA students! If part of a team, discuss that AND what your role as a team member is in the project!!
STEP 3 - PLAN

- What are your priorities?
- What are your non-negotiables?
- Connect to host organization – see next slide
- What is feasible in 6 to 10 weeks in-country? AND What does your host expect before and after your in-country time?
- Gather application components
- Communicate often with your faculty “guide”
- Personal timeline for immunizations, visas, passport, etc.
CONNECTING TO HOST ORGANIZATIONS

- Make sure you have a local contact that you are working with throughout the project development and that they contribute towards both your project development AND supervision during the program.

- Communicate in advance on site-specific project components (e.g., rainy season, dry season, Ramadan, populations at risk, personal and beneficiary risk mitigation, confidential data management, etc.)

- Be sure that your project contributes to the needs of the organization and that this is documented in application.

- Are they able to provide any in-kind support such as subsidizing accommodations (get details!); providing ground transportation; covering the cost of translators or research participant incentives. Be prepared for the answer to be “no”.

- Make sure you ask whether local/national IRB is required. If so, it will often take a long time. Start early and discuss ASAP with your advisors. Don’t expect them to tell you everything you need to know - ASK QUESTIONS and stay in communication.
Once your plans are more clear, work with your Emory (APE) Advisor and the IRB to determine IF your project requires IRB review.

- Email irb@emory.edu to set up a meeting with an IRB analyst.

If Emory IRB review is required, you MUST have Emory IRB approval before conducting any Human Subjects Research that requires review.

- Emory IRB review can take as little as 2-3 weeks, but will take considerably longer if the submitted protocol is incomplete or unclear as to the procedures and the engagement of Emory or of potential participants.

**Local IRB review may also be required.** Your Field Supervisor will be the best source of information about that.

- Emory IRB does not require local review unless local laws and regulations require it, and does not control how long such a review might take.

- Where local laws and regulations do not require local IRB review, Emory IRB expects a ‘letter of cultural context’ to be supplied from someone with research experience in that setting who can provide an opinion on the cultural acceptability of the methods on the local context, and especially on the approach to obtaining informed consent of potential research participants. The Emory IRB staff can provide more guidance on who can provide such a letter and what it should contain. Emory IRB will provide a ‘conditional approval’ letter for a local IRB as needed, when the only remaining requirement is local review.
Questions GFEFA awarded students wish they asked before completing their field experience...

• Will my PI be available for support in-country? If not, will there be a designated person or group to support my work?
  • Who are all the people involved in the project and what is their role?
  • Who is my day-to-day contact person?

• Is there support from the leadership for this project?
  • Will I be a burden on their resources? (Likely, yes – what can you do to mitigate that?)

• Is in-country IRB required?

• Does my timeline require data collection during the rainy season?

• Does the host organization require an official MOU?
## ANTICIPATE EXPENSES

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>SFEs Abroad</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Travel to/from SFE location</td>
<td>$1,242 (n=78)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>$742 (n=78)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>$494 (n=79)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leisure &amp; fun</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>Internet &amp; Phone</td>
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<td>Utilities</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Summer Field Experiences 2017 Financial Report by Evelyn Howatt/Donahoe*
STEP 4 – CONSULT ON APPLICATION

• Find a **faculty “guide”** now – could be your advisor, a mentor, an APE advisor or someone with expertise in the country, topic or methodology you are proposing.
  • Ask lots of questions!
  • Receive feedback with humility.

• Repeat this process with your **in-country host/field supervisor**

• Talk to **second years and international students**, ask about how they communicated in-country, best data plans, social media taxes, comforts from “home” they had to do without, what they wish they had/had not brought with them, #GFEhacks
CONSIDERATIONS

• If your project puts you or your beneficiary/target group at increased risk you MUST detail how you intend to mitigate or manage this risk.

• If you are working with communicable diseases or a population experiencing an outbreak, you MUST include your Personal Protection in Outbreak (PPO) considerations.

• Be able to describe language requirements and your ability to be effective AND SAFE in the setting

• Budget for a translator or local teams if appropriate.

• Include draft tools as uploads, indicating you will revise in- country with local input.
STEP 5 — APPLY

Components of application for funding

- *Faculty Guide approval form*
- *Information Form*
- Abstract
- Detailed narrative
  - Background, context and motivation
  - Project objectives
  - Methods
  - Deliverables
  - Learning objectives
- Uploads
  - Timeline (GANTT chart)
  - Budget
  - Letter of invitation
  - CV
  - Draft materials (survey, interview guide, etc.)
APPLICATION REVIEW

- GFEFA Application Review Committee
  *Faculty from multiple departments with experience in global field work*

- Each proposal read and evaluated by at least 3 committee members

- Evaluation criteria and numerical ranking of each application

- Applications for funding with the fewest (to none) revisions needed receive the highest amount of support

- Feedback is consolidated into official emails from the committee to provide status update and revise/resubmit expectations to students

- *Award monies are not processed until all concerns have been addressed*
EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Evidence of organizational support, communication, planning and preparation with host

- Criteria: *(0 - 5 scale with 5 highest)*
  - Demonstrated, positive implications for public health
  - Objectives are achievable
  - Methods are appropriate
  - Student demonstrates capacity to meet project objectives

- Basically, is this a meaningful, rigorous, ethical project, responsive to community needs, that can be done in the timeframe?
UPON RETURN FROM FUNDED FIELD EXPERIENCE

• Attendance at a debriefing session (required)
  • Held during first month of the fall semester 2020

• Submit a short description and photo of your project

• Deliverable(s) to host organization

• Thank you note to GFEFA endowment fund
2ND YEAR STUDENT PANEL AND Q&A

Angela Udongwo, Nigeria, Hospital/Clinic setting

Cassidy Whitson, Ethiopia, University/school setting

Allison Wray, Nepal, National center setting
2019 COHORT ADVICE

• Make sure you know appropriate work clothing for the culture you're entering
• Be realistic about what you can accomplish in a summer
• Prepare to jetlag
• It’s really helpful to talk to and ask questions of students and faculty who have spent time in the area you’re traveling to
• Be sure to budget for other trips
• Keep track of your phone
• Plan, plan, plan for everything and anything
• Have a back-up summer APE because it can all fall apart in April
• Have the thesis project discussion early if you plan to use your APE for your thesis
• If there are red flags about the project, believe them
• Plan a budget and STICK TO IT. Give yourself some wiggle room, too. Your budget is not going to be 100% accurate
2019 COHORT ADVICE, CONTINUED

- Don’t expect everything to go as planned
- You have/ will learn enough information to navigate traveling -- you’ll learn a lot being there
- Don’t worry about traveling alone, it will go well overall
- Pack more than five shirts
- Pack fewer clothes
- Learn more basic greetings in local language
- Have explicit conversations about what your host organization will pay for
- Make sure you have very specific objectives
- I wish I hadn’t had stressed so much because things worked out the way they were meant to (some things are outside of my control)
WHAT TO DO NOW?

Reflect
  • Breathe

Attend your departmental APE meeting
  • Breathe

Identify a faculty “guide”
  • Breathe

Proceed with the steps as outlined in this slide deck and on the website:
https://www.sph.emory.edu/rollins-life/community-engaged-learning/global-field-experience/students/index.html
  • Breathe
CONTACTS

RSPH Global Field Experience Financial Awards

https://www.sph.emory.edu/rollins-life/community-engaged-learning/global-field-experience/students/index.html

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