



National Evolutionary Synthesis Center

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Policy: Stipend Packages for Sabbatical Scholars

Sabbatical stipends/allowance can be provided in three ways:

- 1) Stipend,
- 2) Living Stipend (housing allowance) up to \$1,000/mo,
- 3) Two-month Summer Stipend when in residence

Policies:

1 – We will offer a living stipend to all sabbatical scholars up to \$1000/mo.

2 – When a traditional scholar's home institution is paying more than 50%, NESCent's contribution will remain at the equivalent of 50% salary:

Example with NESCent providing 50%: Traditional Scholar makes \$71,000 9-mo appt.
Home institution is paying 80%.

- 20% stipend at \$14,200
- summer salary stipend at \$7,888/mo ($\$71,000 / 9 \text{ mos}$) = \$15,778 for 2 months
- housing allowance at \$1,000/mo * 11 mos = \$11,000
- or some combination of summer salary and/or living stipend

We will advertise this policy in our call for proposals.

Information from Research Services Recommendations on Living Stipends, 10/17/07:

- Paying a living allowance is allowed but you will need to be careful on how you inform the participants and account for those expenditures. A living allowance is viewed as part of a "benefit to the person receiving" the allowance (taxable question). For NSF it needs to have a clear audit trail reflecting a reasonable cost item.
- You will need receipts for back-up attached to their signed invoice. You need to be able to prove that the money was spent on reasonable living expenses (\$100 dinner is not allowed even if they cut back on other expenses to cover the cost).

Process for Living Stipend:

For a living stipend, the scholar must invoice us each month for a pre-determined living allowance based on (or less than) the Federal per diem rates. Offering \$1,000/mo for housing is about \$33/day per diem. The Fed per diem for housing in Durham is \$89/day. In this case, the scholar would need to obtain a receipt from the landlord and submit this with a monthly invoice.

NESCent's Current Policy for Funding Scholars:

Targeted - we pay 100% of their 9- or 12-month salary (depending on their appointments with their home institution). This is treated as a non-compensatory stipend. Minimum is \$75,000 or \$8,333.33/mo for 9-mo appt and \$6,250/mo for 12-mo appt.

Traditional - we pay 50% of their 9- or 12-month salary as a non-compensatory stipend. Minimum is \$37,500 or \$4,166.66/mo for 9-mo appt and \$3,125/mo for 12-mo appt.

Short-Term - we pay travel, \$89/day housing, and up to \$51/day per diem to help defray the costs of meals, car rentals, etc. One month could total \$2,670 housing + \$1,530 incidentals = \$4,200 + airfare. In addition to this, the short-term scholar is probably receiving their full salary.