

# Engendering the Spirit of Gadugi at the FEW-Nexus

The Engendering the Spirit of Gadugi (a Cherokee word meaning 'working together') at the Food-Energy-Water (FEW) Nexus program will transform graduate education programs in the STEM fields at Tennessee Technological University with National Science Foundation support.



**NSF-NRT GADUGI AT  
THE FEW NEXUS**

## Description of Program

The Engendering the Spirit of Gadugi at the Food-Energy-Water (FEW) Nexus program is a graduate-level program designed to promote a collaborative approach to the training of a socially and culturally responsible holistic-style professional, interested in applying technical engineering and science principles to complex FEW Nexus challenges.

Partnering with key community leaders, including the Cherokee Nation, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Appalachian communities, and local rural areas, the program offers students an inclusive and immersive learning experience that strengthens students' ability to solve complex FEW problems.

## Overview

The Engendering the Spirit of Gadugi at the Food-Energy-Water (FEW) Nexus program is a National Science Foundation Research Traineeship program that provides a comprehensive and culturally appropriate mentoring approach for students interested in investigating FEW Nexus challenges as part of their M.S. and Ph.D. programs at Tennessee Technological University.

The mentorship team will work with the NRT-NSF fellows to reach their academic and research goals with their leading advisor as well as facilitate the completion of the FEW Nexus-focused program of study. Immersive experiences in partnering communities and innovative Renaissance Foundry Model-guided classes that integrate cultural, sociopolitical, and historical knowledge influences FEW challenges that will form the foundation for the fellowship experience.

## Opportunities for Funding

- NRT-NSF Fellowship
- Diversity Fellowship
- Other Graduate Assistantship Opportunities

## Students Who Can Apply

Applicants can be prospective students who would first apply to a graduate degree program for admission before applying for a fellowship. Current students at Tennessee Tech who are interested in the program can also apply but will need to confirm their eligibility with the program coordinator.

## What Does an NSF-NRT Fellowship Include?

- Fellowship stipends of \$34,000 per year as available with possible renewal dependent on funding availability
- Full tuition + fees (6-9 credits/academic semester)
- Opportunities for immersion, mentoring and holistic educational experiences

## To Learn More & Apply

Scan code below or visit

<https://www.tntech.edu/graduatestudies/nrt-nsffellowship.php>



[sbuer@tntech.edu](mailto:sbuer@tntech.edu)



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