

Frequently Asked Questions – NIOSH Traineeships

What is the purpose of the UA NIOSH Training Project Grant (TPG)?

The purpose of this program is to support the training of the next generation of leaders in Occupational, Safety and Health practice and research. The University of Arizona, Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health is a designated NIOSH TPG for graduate-level training in Industrial Hygiene.

Who is eligible for a NIOSH traineeship at the UA COPH?

Eligible students include US citizens or permanent resident aliens (green card holders) who are enrolled in graduate-level Industrial Hygiene programs.

Can a part-time student receive NIOSH support under the TPG?

Part-time students, as defined by the institution in which they are enrolled, can receive Tuition and Fees from a NIOSH traineeship, but not a stipend.

Is income from a NIOSH traineeship taxable?

The stipend portion of the traineeship award may be taxable, depending on the trainee's tax situation and other school expenses. It is advisable for trainees to obtain IRS Publication 4, Student's Guide to Federal Income Tax and IRS Publication 520 on gift aid and tax requirements. The University does not issue Forms W-2 or 1099 and does not withhold taxes on traineeships.

How much support does a student receive from a NIOSH traineeship?

The amount of support can vary depending on how much money the program receives each year, and how many students enroll in the NIOSH-approved program. Support can include tuition, fees, health insurance, travel, and a maximum stipend set by the federal government. Appointments for stipends can only be made to full-time students.

Is there a maximum number of years allowed for receiving NIOSH TPG support?

Yes, the maximum number of years an individual can receive NRSA (National Research Service Award) support, including NIOSH traineeships is five years for pre-doctoral students unless a waiver is granted.

When should the online eRA Commons form (PHS #2271) be completed by NIOSH trainees?

The Appointment of Trainee form (PHS #2271) should be completed by each trainee on the online eRA Commons platform (online interface governed by the National Institutes of Health) and the program in which the trainee is enrolled, no later than 30 days after the beginning of the appointment.

Trainees will receive an email from the NIOSH TPG coordinator which provides instructions for login, fully updating personal information, and completion of the appointment form. Please respond and complete the requested items as soon as possible once contacted by the coordinator. Trainees are re-appointed annually.

For what length of time can traineeship appointments be made?

The minimum trainee appointment time is nine months for graduate trainees. Exceptions are possible, for example, when a trainee graduates mid-year or changes program emphasis to Industrial Hygiene mid-year. Appointment times less than nine months must be approved by NIOSH.

What happens upon graduation from the program?

Upon graduation, the coordinator initiates a termination notice with the eRA Commons platform. The termination notice asks for post training information and a summary of your training and/or research while on the training grant (up to 2000 characters). This termination notice must be completed prior to graduation.