



# Department of Defense **INSTRUCTION**

**NUMBER** 3218.02

July 24, 2013

Incorporating Change 2, October 15, 2018

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USD(R&E)

**SUBJECT:** National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowships

**References:** See Enclosure 1

1. **PURPOSE.** In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive 5134.01 and section 2191 of Title 10, United States Code (References (a) and (b)), this instruction reissues DoD Instruction 3218.2 (Reference (c)) to establish policy and assign responsibilities concerning the award of NDSEG fellowships.

2. **APPLICABILITY.** This instruction applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD (referred to collectively in this instruction as the "DoD Components").

3. **POLICY.** It is DoD policy that:

a. NDSEG fellowships shall be awarded:

(1) Solely to U.S. citizens and nationals who agree to pursue graduate degrees in science, engineering, or other fields of study that are designated, in accordance with paragraph 2b of enclosure 2, to be of priority interest to the DoD.

(2) Through a nationwide competition in which all appropriate actions have been taken to encourage applications from members of groups (including minorities, women, and disabled persons) that historically have been underrepresented in science and technology.

(3) Without regard to the geographic region(s) in which the applicant lives or intends to pursue an advanced degree.

b. The criteria for award of NDSEG fellowships are:

(1) The applicant's academic ability relative to other persons applying in the applicant's proposed field of study.

(2) The priority of the applicant's proposed field of study to the DoD.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES. See Enclosure 2.

5. RELEASABILITY. **Cleared for Public Release.** This instruction is available at the Directives Division Website at <http://www.esd.whs.mil/DD>.

6. SUMMARY OF CHANGE 2. This change reassigns the office of primary responsibility for this instruction to the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering in accordance with the July 13, 2018 Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Reference (d)).

7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This instruction is effective July 24, 2013.



FRANK BENNETT  
Under Secretary of Defense for  
Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics

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ENCLOSURE 1

REFERENCES

- (a) DoD Directive 5134.01, “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)),” December 9, 2005, as amended
- (b) Title 10, United States Code
- (c) DoD Instruction 3218.2, “National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate (NDSEG) Fellowships,” June 7, 1990 (hereby cancelled)
- (d) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Establishment of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment,” July 13, 2018
- (e) Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, “DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms,” current edition

ENCLOSURE 2

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING (ASD(R&E)). Under the authority, direction, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, the ASD(R&E):

- a. Oversees implementation of this instruction and develops DoD guidance, as needed, for NDSEG fellowships.
- b. Ensures that the guidance developed in paragraph 1a is published in the Federal Register and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations.
- c. Designates those DoD Components that will approve and award NDSEG fellowships, consistent with relevant statutory authority.

2. DoD COMPONENT HEADS. If designated by ASD(R&E) to approve and award NDSEG fellowships, and in coordination with the ASD(R&E), DoD Components heads:

- a. Oversee the nationwide competition to select NDSEG fellowship recipients.
- b. Determine those sciences, engineering, and other fields of priority interest to the DoD in which NDSEG fellowships are to be awarded.
- c. Pursuant to Reference (b), develop guidance that prescribes:
  - (1) Procedures for selecting NDSEG fellows.
  - (2) The basis for determining the amounts of NDSEG fellowships.
  - (3) The maximum NDSEG fellowship amount that may be awarded to an individual during an academic year.
- d. Ensure that the guidance developed in paragraph 2c(2) is published in the Federal Register and codified in the Code of Federal Regulations.
- e. Provide a copy of NDSEG fellowship program metrics to ASD(R&E) annually.

GLOSSARY

PART I. ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASD(R&E) Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering

NDSEG National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate

PART II. DEFINITION

activity. Defined in the DoD Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms (Reference (e)).