



**Vietnam Education Foundation**  
Hanoi Towers, Suite 502  
49 Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, Vietnam  
Phone 84-4-3936-3670, Fax 84-4-3936-3672  
Website: [www.vef.gov](http://www.vef.gov)

## **Announcement**

### **VEF 2009 Fellowship Program for Process B**

The Vietnam Education Foundation (VEF) is pleased to announce its 2009 VEF Fellowship program for Process B. Process B involves the submission of an application and documentation supporting a VEF Fellowship award for applicants already in possession of a Letter of Admission from a leading graduate school in the United States for study commencing in Fall 2009 in a science and technology (S&T) field. The fellowship application and selection process is open, competitive, and transparent. Applicants do not need to pay any fees to anyone in order to apply or be considered for a VEF Fellowship. Winners are chosen based on individual merit including academic performance, intellectual capabilities, English communication skills, and the potential for scientific contribution to education and research.

Applications will be available ONLY online and ONLY from **9:00 a.m., February 1, 2009, to 9:00 a.m., March 15, 2009 (Vietnam time zone)**.

#### **1. Fields of Study**

VEF seeks highly qualified applicants interested in pursuing a Ph.D. or a Master's degree at leading universities in the United States in the major disciplines of the sciences (natural, physical, and environmental), mathematics, medicine, and technology, including such fields as Agricultural Science, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Physics, and Public Health. Business and management as well as the social sciences, such as economics and psychology, are not included in the fields of study supported by VEF.

#### **2. Eligibility**

In order to apply, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Vietnamese by citizenship and not permanent residents in, or citizens of, any country other than Vietnam; and
- Individuals who have been admitted to at least one leading graduate program in the United States for the Fall 2009 term in one of the fields of study supported by VEF. The admitted school(s) must belong to the [VEF Alliance](#), or must accept the [terms of VEF financial support](#). In both cases, the applicant is responsible to provide in the VEF application a written

statement from the department and/or University indicating their acceptance of VEF financial terms if the applicant is selected for a VEF Fellowship award.

### **3. Selection Process**

There are two rounds of competition:

**ROUND ONE - Qualification Screening:** From February 1 to March 15, 2009, VEF will accept and review applications from applicants who have been admitted to at least one leading graduate program in the United States for the Fall 2009 term in a field of study supported by VEF. The school must either be a member of the [VEF Alliance](#) and/or must accept [VEF financial support terms](#).

**ROUND TWO – Interview:** In late March or early April 2009, the most competitive applicants will be invited to a phone interview after their applications are reviewed by the National Academies (NA). Finalists will be recommended to the VEF Board for approval.

*Note: The above is the intended VEF time-line of activities for the selection process for 2009. VEF reserves the right to make changes as circumstances require. Any changes will be posted ONLY on VEF's official website at [www.vef.gov](http://www.vef.gov).*

### **4. Preparation for the VEF Fellowship Application**

*Note: Information entered on the online application can be changed as often as the applicant wishes prior to the application deadline.*

*To prepare for the [application](#), applicants must do the following:*

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE.** Each applicant must prepare a Statement of Purpose essay, giving three reasons for wanting to pursue a graduate degree program in the United States, supported by a VEF Fellowship. Objectives must be stated clearly with explanations about how a VEF Fellowship would help the applicant achieve his or her stated objectives. The essay must be well-organized and composed in excellent English and must not be longer than two A4 pages, single spaced. The quality and content of this essay are extremely important factors in determining the applicant's candidacy for a VEF Fellowship. Below are some suggestions of what to include:

#### **Work and research experience**

- Narrative of work and research experience;
- Description of a scientific challenge that the applicant faced and how s/he managed and solved that challenge, including the lessons learned. This can be a success or a failure, but it must be memorable.

#### **Future plans**

- Desired concentrations within the specified field of study (specific subjects and general research interests) ranked according to priority;
- Objectives and impact of one's proposed research or project(s); and
- Contribution of the proposed research or project(s) to the development of science and technology in Vietnam.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS.** Each applicant is required to submit the following:

- Letter of admission from each school;
- Letter of financial support from each school if the financial terms are not mentioned in the letter of admission. This letter should clearly show that the school(s) is/are aware of, and accept(s) the [terms of VEF financial support](#).
- A copy of the completed application form to each of the schools to which you have applied and been admitted; and
- One set of supporting documents that you submitted to each university for admission.

All supporting documents are required to be sent to VEF by airmail (suggested to use express mail) and must arrive by March 15, 2009. The address is:

The Fellowship Program  
Vietnam Education Foundation  
Hanoi Towers, Suite 502  
49 Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, Vietnam

**If you have any questions regarding Process B, please send an e-mail to [vef2009@vef.gov](mailto:vef2009@vef.gov)**