



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: I-23-0007-O

Page 1 of 1

We received an allegation that a graduate student (Subject) changed her mailing address when submitting a Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) application (Application). The Application's deadline was 5:00 p.m. local time as determined by the applicant's mailing address. By changing her mailing address to a different time zone, the Subject gained extra time to submit the Application, circumventing the rules and gaining an unfair advantage.

When interviewed, the Subject admitted to changing her address. She stated she made the change in part on the advice of her Major Professor. The Subject was not awarded a GRFP fellowship and is ineligible to apply again.

We sent both the Subject and Major Professor questionable research practices letters, noting their obligation to follow NSF regulations, policies, and rules, and encouraging them and the lab to take Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research training.

This case is **closed** with no further action taken.