



**Shamara Collins**

## **Shamara Collins Awarded National Science Foundation Fellowship**

**TAMPA, Fla (April 1, 2013)** Shamara Collins, a first-year doctoral student in the Department of Electrical Engineering, is the recipient of a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. Collins will receive a \$30,000 annual stipend, plus full tuition and fees, and student health insurance for up to three years.

The National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) helps to ensure the vitality of the human resource base of science and engineering in the United States and reinforces its diversity. The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited U.S. institutions. The NSF received over 13,000 submitted applications for the 2013 competition, and made 2,000 award offers.

Collins is working on photovoltaic solar cells under Chris Ferekides, professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering. In December 2011, she earned her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Morgan State University (Baltimore, MD) where she was a participant in the MBRS RISE program. Collins is currently supported by a two-year NSF Florida Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship.

[National Science Foundation](#)

[NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program](#)

[Florida Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation](#)

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*34th in federal research expenditures for public universities by the National Science Foundation. The USF System has an annual budget of \$1.5 billion, an annual economic impact of \$3.7 billion, and serves 47,000 students in Tampa, St. Petersburg, Sarasota-Manatee and Lakeland.*

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