

College of Education
Dean's Graduate Assistantship (DGA)
for Engaged Scholarship & Research in Education

Purpose:

This program is designed to support the most promising students applying for admission to our doctoral programs. The Dean's Graduate Assistantship for Engaged Scholarship & Research in Education will typically provide support for at least seven doctoral students in the field of Education. The support will be in the form of a ½ time, grade 14, graduate assistantship. Each Dean's Graduate Assistant will receive four years of funding based on maintaining a successful level of doctoral study and satisfactory performance in the assistantship. These assistantships are funded using Penn State resources in addition to resources from externally funded grants, where possible. Two years of support are funded centrally through the Dean's office, and two years are funded by the relevant Department Head's office using a combination of Department resources and resources coming from externally funded grants secured by the sponsoring faculty member.

Eligibility:

All College of Education graduate programs are eligible to nominate students who are applying for a doctoral program in the College.

Eligible students include:

- Students new to the university.
- Students new to the program.
- Current outstanding Master's students applying for a doctoral program.

Nominations & Selection Process:

Recommendations for appointment as a Dean's Graduate Assistant will be made to the dean by the Committee for Graduate Studies and Research Policy. The final appointment decisions will be made by the dean.

- Nomination form
- Letter of support from the nominating program indicating what distinguishes this student from others and the match of interests and skills between the student and faculty member. Please include the name of the faculty member who will serve as the student's adviser and a statement/letter from the adviser describing how the student will be involved with the adviser's research.
- 2 page vitae of adviser/sponsoring faculty member's current research
- Copy of the student's Graduate School Admission Application, including:
 - Copy of undergraduate and master's transcripts, if applicable
 - Copy of GRE or other test scores, if applicable
 - Copies of two letters of recommendation
 - Copy of student's career or goal statement

Deadlines:

Nominations will be considered beginning early February. A specific deadline will be provided in the annual announcement memo.

Student Notifications:

The College Office of Undergraduate and Graduate Studies will prepare **a congratulatory letter for inclusion with the department's award notification packet.** The department's packet should include the following:

- Terms of offer letter that outlines what the student will be expected to do
- Information on Penn State's insurance
- The stipend they can expect to receive