

Robert W. Graham Endowed Graduate Fellowships - Guidelines

Goal:

The goal is to assist with recruiting outstanding students who are considering enrollment at Penn State. The funds are to attract the caliber of students who apply to several institutions, including Penn State, and select another institution due to a more attractive financial package.

Deadline:

Colleges have until May 1 to utilize their allotted funding.

Description:

The fund will provide supplementation awards up to \$4,000 per year to incoming students who have been given assistantships, departmental fellowships, or external awards. Graham offers are typically for one year; however, colleges may extend two-year offers to outstanding students.

Eligibility Requirements:

Incoming, graduate degree-seeking, full-time students must be offered total funding support packages that meet a living stipend threshold to be eligible for Graham award supplementation. As an example, for Centre Co., PA in 2015, this is estimated at \$22,464 (see <http://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/42027>). This equates to approximately a grade 12, ½-time fall/spring assistantship stipend (10 months; \$18,495) with additional summer support. For the College of Engineering, the Eberly College of Science, and the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, the awards will be used for recruitment (first priority) or retention to recognize and support graduate students who contribute to the diversity of the student body.

Graham awards may be utilized with other Graduate School funding allocations in accordance with University financial policy and college proposals that were pre-authorized by the director of the Graduate School's Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards Administration.

Processing Procedure:

Programs must work with their college graduate education leaders to select the most competitive incoming students. Each graduate education office will coordinate the Graham offers within the college. By May 1, colleges must provide the Graduate School with a roster of their Graham recipients and awards will be entered into student accounts by the Office of Graduate Fellowships and Awards Administration. If colleges have uncommitted funds and/or do not report by May 1, Graham allocations will revert to the Graduate School and may be reallocated.