

# University Graduate Fellowship Program—Information

College of Education, The Pennsylvania State University

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## Purpose

University Graduate Fellowships are awarded to scholastically outstanding incoming graduate students.

## Eligibility

The fellowship competition is open to (new\*) **entering Ph.D. students**. In prior years a typical award winner had an average Jr.-Sr. GPA of 3.8 or above and average GRE scores (total verbal, quantitative and analytical of 2100). While these are not the only selection criteria used, this information is offered to help you realize the extreme competitiveness of this program. Students should spend time on their career/goal statement since this is carefully reviewed. Students should report any publications, professional experiences, awards/recognitions, honors, and other relevant information on their resume/vita. Students who receive fellowships are required to enroll for at least nine credits each semester.

\*Current Penn State master's students completing their degrees and *changing* academic programs to pursue doctoral degrees are considered "new to the program" and *are* also eligible.

## Nominations

Each student must be nominated by his/her department. This nomination must include a written guarantee for financial support for the second year. Nomination applications must include the following:

- ◆ Nomination form (see attached)
- ◆ Nomination narrative (*why should this student receive a UGF?*)
- ◆ Guarantee of second year support
- ◆ A copy of the student's Graduate School Admission Application
- ◆ Copy of undergraduate & graduate transcripts
- ◆ Copy of GRE or other test scores
- ◆ Two letters of recommendation
- ◆ Student's statement of career goals (limit to two pages)
- ◆ Student's resume/vita

## Deadline

The deadline for nomination materials is usually around February 1 each year. The official announcement along with all pertinent information, including the deadline, is sent to Department Heads in January each year.

## Selection Process

The Faculty Council subcommittee on Graduate Studies and Research Policy will review applications and make the final award decisions. Decisions are usually made the third week of February and departments are promptly notified so they can expeditiously extend offers to selected applicants. Offers must be made in accordance with The Graduate School's guidelines for offers.