

# Diversity Fellowship Informational

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Director

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- The *Diversity Fellowship* seeks to increase the diversity of the graduate student population, to maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and to support the development of scholars.
- Master's students currently enrolled at TAMU are eligible for nomination.

# Overview of Fellowships

- Nominees for the *Diversity Fellowship* might include individuals (for example):
  - representing minority groups that historically have been under-represented at TAMU and/or in their profession;
  - overcoming socioeconomic or other educational disadvantages;
  - who are first generation college graduates (neither parent earned a bachelor's degree);
  - with disabilities, or veterans;
  - who will work on scholarly topics related to these areas.

# Eligibility

- U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents
- Seeking entry to a Master's or Doctoral Program at TAMU
- Candidates must be graduating with a bachelor's or master's degree no later than August 2018 and enroll in TAMU in Fall 2018

# Application Process

- Nominations originate from candidate's faculty advisor (if identified), graduate program chair/advisor or department/program heads.
- Submissions are made through the Internet Grant Proposal System (IGPS).
- Only the best prospective students should be nominated.

# Application Process

- Nominees must have submitted a complete application ([applytexas.org](http://applytexas.org)) for graduate admission to Texas A&M by the date of their nomination.
  - Student's self-statement is valued by most reviewers.
  - Includes reporting of standardized test scores.
  - Data are verified if the student is awarded a Fellowship.

# Application Process

- Completed nomination letter clearly describing how the student's application meets all the selection criteria (2 pages maximum).
  - Beneficial to cover the evaluation criteria used by the reviewers.
  - Explanations of the value/impact/importance of various elements are more important than a restatement of data found elsewhere in the application.



# Application Process

- Three (3) references for the student (6 pages total maximum).
  - Often beneficial to have letters from diverse, knowledgeable sources.
  - Document first hand experiences or present comparative information from a unique perspective (as possibilities) that set the student apart from the other applicants.

# Application Process

- A statement of financial support (types and sources with \$\$ amounts) that will be offered to the candidate for the year(s) following the end of the Fellowship.
  - Awardees are expected to be offered financial support covering normative time to completion of their degree.

# Application Process

- Student's resume or curriculum vitae (4 pages maximum).
- Candidates do not have to be admitted at the time of nomination; however, departments are expected to admit awardees.

# Application Process

- Nominations should include a diversity statement and relevant supporting data and narrative about the basis of the nominee's eligibility regarding these markers of diversity.

# Application Deadlines

- ***Diversity Fellowship*** nominations deadline 5 p.m., Friday, February 2, 2018.

# Review Process

- Request faculty reviewers from Graduate Deans.
- Master's and Doctoral applicant nominations reviewed separately.
- Three reviewers for each applications, with no reviewer associated with a nominating department.

# Review Process

- Reviews are conducted within the IGPS systems.
- Reviewers are provided a scoring rubric and score each application accordingly. They are also able to provide comments as they desire.
- Scores and comments are reviewed by OGAPS for biases, inconsistencies, and irregularities.

## Graduate Diversity Fellowship

- **Evidence of Superior Academic Achievement (25%)**  
 Class rank; GPA; Quality of undergraduate program; Honors or other Awards, etc.
- **Relevant Experiences Outside of the Classroom (25%)**  
 Extracurricular experience related to course of study; Leadership experiences; Work experiences; Military experiences; Internships; Personal history; International experiences; Undergraduate research; Oral or Poster presentations; Publications, etc.
- **Other Indicators of Future Success (25%)**  
 Strong letters of reference; Mentoring plan; Success at overcoming particular challenges; etc.



## Graduate Diversity Fellowship (continued)

- **How this applicant can contribute to diversity in the nominating department/program and to his/her future profession. (25%)**
  - Applicant is from a minority group that historically has been under-represented at TAMU and/or in their profession; Overcome socioeconomic or other educational disadvantages; First generation college graduates (neither parent earned a bachelor's degree); A person with a disability; Veteran; Will work on scholarly topics related to these areas, etc.

# Award Announcements

- OGAPS will distribute office award letters soon after the selection committee reviews are completed.
- Nominators, graduate advisors, department heads, and graduate deans will be notified of applicant selections.

- ***Diversity Fellowship*** – Doctoral Students
  - ~\$103,800 over a three year period
    - \$18,000 annual stipend for three years
    - \$10,000 per year tuition and fees for three years
    - The nominating department must provide an assistantship of a minimum of 25% FTE at the department's standard assistantship rate each year for three years. If the department provides a 50% FTE assistantship, it must also include payment of personal health insurance coverage equivalent to the graduate student health plan.

- ***Diversity Fellowship*** – Doctoral Students
  - In year 4, matching funding, at a minimum equivalent to the standard assistantship level for the nominating department, and tuition payment in year 4 is required for the department and/or faculty.

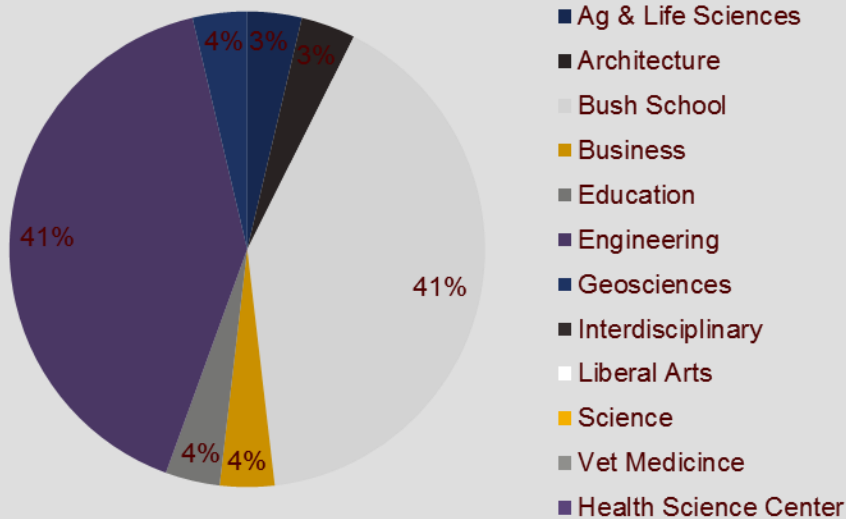
- ***Diversity Fellowship*** – Master’s Students
  - ~\$59,200 over a two year period
    - \$13,000 annual stipend for two years
    - \$10,000 per year tuition and fees for two years
    - The nominating department must provide an assistantship of a minimum of 25% FTE at the department’s standard assistantship rate.

# Awards

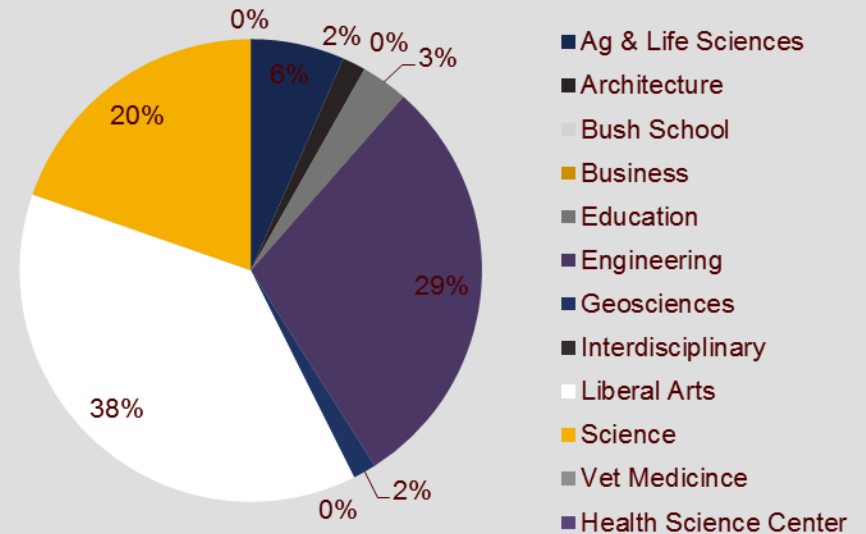
- Standard work effort for 25% FTE equals 10 hours/week
- For assistantships less than 50% FTE, OGAPS will provide reimbursement to the student for the cost of individual health insurance coverage equivalent to the student health insurance plan.
- Some exceptions may be approved by OGAPS for a department/program to offer a scholarship instead of an assistantship.
  - This request must be submitted to and approved by OGAPS before the nomination is submitted.
  - Department/program must also provide payment for student health insurance

# Graduate Diversity Fellowship

2017 Masters GDF Offers by College



2017 Doctoral GDF Offers by College



	Masters	Doctoral
Nominees	53	150
Offers	27	61
Accepts	17	27
Enrolled	17	27

# Expectations of Fellows

- Awardees must notify OGAPS of their decision to accept or decline their fellowship by **April 15**.
- Must maintain a 3.0 overall grade point average after their first semester to receive fellowship funding for the following semester. After the second semester (or summer semester) is completed the student must maintain a 3.25 overall grade point.



# Expectations of Fellows

- Notify OGAPS of any program changes.
- Meet all reporting requests.
- Participation in Fellows and Professional Development activities.

# Questions?

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