

Texas A&M University
2015-2016 Dissertation Fellowship (Round 2) Announcement
Office of Graduate and Professional Studies

Award Information

The Texas A&M University Office of Graduate and Professional Studies is offering a Dissertation Fellowship to support students in the dissertation phase of their degree program during the 2015-2016 academic year. This fellowship is intended to support doctoral students in the final analysis of the research topic and the final writing of the dissertation, and will be awarded to 10 students who will graduate by December 2016. *This fellowship is NOT intended to finance data collection or the completion of doctoral coursework. Priority will be given to doctoral students whose primary financial support for 2014-2015 is NOT related to their research (e.g. GANT, GAL, GAT, Self-funded). Students who have funding related to their dissertation research will be least likely to receive this fellowship.*

In addition to meeting the stated criteria of eligibility, applicants for the 2015-2016 Dissertation Fellowship awards must be students currently enrolled in the colleges or interdisciplinary programs of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Agribusiness and Managerial Economics, Architecture, Marine Biology at TAMU – College Station, Mays Business School, Molecular and Environmental Plant Sciences, Education and Human Development, Dwight Look College of Engineering, Genetics, Geosciences, Liberal Arts, Neuroscience, Science, Toxicology, Water Management and Hydrological Science, or Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Tuition and Stipends

The dissertation fellowship stipend is \$1,500 per month from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016 (or graduation, whichever is earlier). The fellowship also includes payment for tuition and required fees **for the minimum number of required credit hours for the fellowship recipient (such as by immigration visa, federal loan deferral, etc.)**. During the 12 month fellowship period, recipients will also receive up to \$1,692 for reimbursement of receipts relative to the cost of the graduate student health insurance. U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and international doctoral students are eligible to apply for this fellowship.

Please note: Federal student loans require you to be enrolled at least half time to continue in your grace period or defer your student loan repayment. One hour of registration is not considered half time by your loan holder in most cases (even though the university may consider you full time), thus your grace period may end, or your repayment period may begin, earlier than anticipated. A full time course of study does not always mean full time enrollment of hours to a holder. You may have to complete a deferment form, stating to your loan holder that you are on a fellowship and request a deferment until graduation.

Applicant Requirements

- Must be admitted to candidacy by November 6, 2015. To be admitted to candidacy for a doctoral degree, a student must have:
 - (1) completed all formal coursework on the degree plan with the exception of any remaining 681, 684, 690, and 691 credit hours;
 - (2) a 3.0 Graduate GPR and a Degree Plan GPR of at least 3.0 with no grade lower than C in any course on the degree plan;
 - (3) passed the preliminary examination (written and oral portions);
 - (4) submitted an approved dissertation proposal); AND
 - (5) met the degree residency requirements (see Graduate Catalog).

The dissertation fellowship will not be authorized for any doctoral student who has not been admitted to candidacy by November 6, 2015.

- Must reside in Bryan/College Station and conduct the work described in the Dissertation Fellowship application on campus, during the fellowship year, (January 2016 through December 2016), except for doctoral students whose committee chair resides on the TAMU-Galveston campus. In that latter case, those students should be working on site in Galveston.

Restrictions

Dissertation fellowship recipients **may not** accept any additional funding during the fellowship tenure period between January 2016 through December 2016.

Criteria

Reviewers will consider the following:

- Academic performance and productivity while at Texas A&M
- Potential impact of student's research and scholarly work on society
- Financial need, especially for those students whose primary support is not related to their dissertation research

Application Procedure

Students can apply online at <http://ogaps.tamu.edu/Buttons/Funding-Opportunities/Dissertation-Fellowship>. The following information will be required:

- Number of scholarly products while a graduate student at TAMU: published articles or reviews, book chapters, and conference papers produced, and conference poster/oral presentations made
- Sources of financial support (past two years and current semester)
- Abstract of dissertation research
- Research impact statement (*a statement speaking to the impact of the scholarly work on the community, state, nation or the global society written in non-technical, lay language*).
- Work plan for completing the remaining degree requirements (including defense, final revisions of dissertation, and approval by committee and thesis office) in the 12-month time frame: this should be *detailed* and *realistic*.
- Curriculum Vitae; be sure that full citations are provided for all publications, conference papers and conference presentation.
- Copy of your degree evaluation confirming candidacy (*click here for directions on how to run a degree evaluation*)
- Faculty Response form from student's committee chair (*click here for form*)

The application site will be open until **5 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2015**. Awards will be announced by mid December.

Each awarded student must submit a report at the end of *each semester* documenting his/her successful completion of outlined milestones.

Deadline Dates

All application materials from the student must be submitted online by **5 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2015.** There will be **NO exceptions to this date or time.**

Instructions for Submittal

The application must be completed online and *in one session*, as the form cannot be saved for a future session; please allow adequate time to complete. The application may be accessed on the OGAPS website at <http://ogaps.tamu.edu/Buttons/Funding-Opportunities/Dissertation-Fellowship>.