

Graduate Division Fellowships 25-26

This document is for all fellowships and awards in the current 25-26 and next academic year 26-27.

Quarterlies

ECA – Earle C. Anthony Travel Grant Award

This award provides funding for Ph.D. students who have advanced to candidacy to attend STEM-focused conferences. Students may receive up to \$1,500 for national events and up to \$2,000 for international events.

Emeriti – Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Award

Supports PhD students in any field who travel to present research at scholarly conferences or travel to conduct dissertation research. The UCR Emeriti Association Graduate Student Travel Awards will be made in amounts of up to \$1,500 for domestic travel and \$2000 for international travel.

DRG – Dissertation Research Grant

Provides funding of up to \$2,000 for research-related expenses associated with the dissertation. Applicants must be registered Ph.D. students who have advanced to candidacy.

MRG – Master’s Thesis Research Grant

Applicable to all non-STEM Master’s students. Funding up to \$2,000 provided for expenses directly related to thesis research including conference registration, travel, and equipment.

Process for quarterly submissions:

- Graduate Council Fellowship Sub-Committee reviews applications in the Fall and Spring.
- Submission deadlines: **October 16th and April 16th.**
- Award notifications are sent within one month of each deadline.

For more information visit: <https://graduate.ucr.edu/funding>

All awardees will submit a report on the use of the money before the end of the following quarter.

Dissertation Completion Fellowship Award (DCFA)

The DCFA is designed to support PhD students in completing their degree during the current academic year. Awards provide up to **two quarters of stipend and tuition support (\$11,500/quarter)**. Applicants requesting support for a second quarter must provide a justification in their timeline and confirmation from their Dissertation (Thesis) Advisor.

There will be 2 calls for DCFA’s.

1. September 2025 with a deadline of October 17th to award for Winter 2026.
2. November 2025 with a deadline of January 16th to award for Spring 2026.

Guidelines:

- **Graduation Requirement:** Students must graduate within the award period. Failure to do so may affect the Graduate Program's ability to nominate future students.
- **Employment Eligibility:** DCFA recipients are **not eligible for employment** after the fellowship period ends.
- **Exceptions:** If unusual circumstances arise, contact **GradAwards** *before the fellowship ends*. Requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- **Advisor Confirmation:** The Dissertation Advisor and Graduate Advisor must acknowledge the student's thesis timeline and confirm the plan to graduate within the award period.

Examples of student timelines can be found at the end of this document.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Must be a Ph.D. student who has advanced to candidacy by January 16th, 2026.
2. Must not have more than 7 units of incomplete grades.
3. Must be making acceptable progress toward the degree. (For these purposes, acceptable progress for a Ph.D. student means advanced to candidacy within 15 quarters after entry.
4. Can be on leave to apply but must be enrolled as a full-time student (12 units) during tenure of fellowship.
5. International and domestic students are eligible to apply.

Review Process

- Application forms will be available and filled out online now at:
https://grad.ucr.edu/portal/current_fellow_apps
- Only 1 letter of recommendation is required for the DCFA and must come from the Dissertation (Thesis) Advisor. This letter must attest to the timeline the students provided and their ability to complete their thesis before the end of the award.
- Graduate Programs will generate their internal review process to determine nominations. This should be done by the committee to minimize conflicts of interest.
- Student applications will be accessible to the program review committee via Slate. (<https://grad.ucr.edu/manage/>).
- Graduate Programs will be provided a number of DCFA nominations dependent on the size of the program (**Table 1** and **2**).
- If prior DCFA's have not graduated at the time of nomination allocation (September of each year), program nomination allocations will be reduced.
- It is expected that the success rate will be around 50% with ~100 quarters of support being awarded and subject to availability of funds.

Review Criteria

- All fellowships award excellence in the student's discipline.
- Graduate Programs are required to submit justification for why a student excels in their discipline. Part of that justification should be in the form of a Graduate Program specific rubric generated by the program to highlight by what criteria students are evaluated.
- Please let your students know that writing advice specifically for these awards can be provided by Grad Success' Writing Center. <https://gwc.ucr.edu/>

Timeline

- Deadlines for Fall and Winter nominations are October 17th, 2025, and January 16th, 2026.
- Nominations will be uploaded by Graduate Advisors via Slate - no applications will be directly accepted from students.
- Graduate Division will check the eligibility of nominees.
- The Graduate Division will review applications and awards will be announced and made in November and February for Winter and Spring quarters respectively. The goal is to give programs notice of successful awards in time for TA and GSR letters to be sent to students that were unsuccessful.

Dissertation Year Completion (DCFA's) Nominations for Each Program

Please find below a complete list of PhD offering Graduate Programs in alphabetical order. The total number of students has been calculated at the beginning of the academic year. If you disagree with your current number of PhD students, please contact us. The allocation of nominations has been distributed using Table 1.

Table 1

Number of Students in Program	Number of nominations
<25	1
25-50	2
51-100	3
>100	4

Table 2

Graduate Program	#total students	Nominations
Anthropology	46	2
Applied Statistics	44	2
Art History	14	1
Astronomy	18	1
Biochemistry and Molecular Bio	45	2
Bioengineering	53	3
Biomedical Sciences	35	2
Biophysics	24	1
Business Administration	5	1
Cell, Molecular, and Development	37	2
Chemical & Environmental Engr	76	3
Chemistry	149	4
Comparative Literature	25	2
Computer Science	190	4
Critical Dance Studies	19	1
Earth & Planetary Sciences	40	2
Economics	63	3

Education	76	2
Electrical Engineering	111	4
English	53	3
Entomology	40	2
Environmental Sciences	26	2
Environmental Toxicology	31	2
Ethnic Studies	16	1
Evoltn, Ecol & Organismal Bio	57	3
Genetics, Genomics & Bioinform	30	2
History	51	3
Materials Science and Engineer	38	2
Mathematics	85	3
Mechanical Engineering	66	2
Microbiology	37	2
Music	25	1
Neuroscience	50	2
Philosophy	37	2
Physics	119	4
Plant Biology	62	3
Plant Pathology	26	2
Political Science	63	3
Psychology	98	2
Religious Studies	19	1
Sociology	12	1
Spanish	29	2

Dissertation Year Fellowship Awards (DYFA's)

DYFAs provide one full year of funding (3 quarters) to outstanding PhD students who are expected to complete their degree program in the **upcoming academic year**. Each fellowship includes a quarterly stipend of \$12,000 plus tuition and fees, along with an additional \$1,000 travel award. Recipients are also required to attend an award ceremony at the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) in the Fall, with travel costs covered by the Graduate Division.

Students apply in the Fall, and programs review and nominate applicants. Nominations are then reviewed and awarded in the Winter, with funding beginning in Summer or Fall 2025. Funded by UCOP, these fellowships reward excellence and provide students with the financial support needed to focus fully on completing their dissertations in a timely manner without additional work obligations.

Each year, only the top 3 students are chosen.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Must be a Ph.D. student who has advanced to candidacy by January 16th, 2026.
2. Must have >3.5 GPA
3. Must not have more than 7 units of incomplete grades.
4. Must be making acceptable progress toward the degree. (For these purposes, acceptable progress for a Ph.D. student means advanced to candidacy within 15 quarters after entry and must complete the degree by the normative time to degree for the particular program plus 1 year at time of degree.)
5. Can be on leave to apply but must be enrolled as a full-time student (12 units) during tenure of fellowship.
6. International and domestic students are eligible to apply.

UC-HSI DDI President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship (PPPF)

This program is designed to strengthen faculty pathways for historically underrepresented groups, including Latinx, African Americans, American Indians/Native Americans, Filipinx, and Pacific Islanders across all disciplines; women in STEM; and Asian Americans in the humanities and social sciences. It offers fellowships to domestic students from California Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) who belong to these groups.

Each fellowship provides one year of support (3 quarters), including a \$12,000 quarterly stipend, full tuition and fees, and a \$10,000 professional development grant to be used throughout the student's PhD. This funding allows recipients to focus on completing their degrees in a timely manner without additional work obligations.

Applications open in the Fall, with programs reviewing and nominating candidates. Final selections are made in the Winter, and the fellowship is applied in the **following academic year**. Funded by the University of California Office of the President (UCOP). AB540 students are eligible, while international students are not.

Only 3 students are selected annually.

Eligibility Criteria

- Must be a Ph.D. student.
- Must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States (AB540 status is ok)
- Must be exceptional students (as demonstrated by their research achievements).
- Must have received their undergraduate or master's degree from a California Hispanic Serving Institution (CA HSI)—public or private.
- Must have advanced to candidacy prior to being selected for the fellowship.
- Must have letters of support from Faculty Advisor(s) that address the student's performance and potential as an exceptional academic, and comment on the likelihood that the student will pursue a professoriate path after receiving their PhD.
- Must have a demonstrated record of advancing issues of inclusion, equity, and contribution to society; actively supporting underrepresented communities; and shows commitment to pursuing these efforts throughout their career.

- Must be actively engaged in scholarly research leading to the dissertation.
- Must not have more than 7 units of incomplete grades.
- Must be making acceptable progress toward the degree. (For these purposes, acceptable progress for a Ph.D. student means advanced to candidacy within 15 quarters after entry and must complete the degree by the normative time to degree for the particular program plus 1 year at time of degree.
- Can be on leave to apply but must be enrolled as a full-time student (12 units) during tenure of fellowship.

DYFA and UC-HSI Review Process

1. Application forms will be available and filled out online:
https://grad.ucr.edu/portal/current_fellow_apps
2. Two letters of recommendation are required for the DYFA and UC-HSI applications.
3. Graduate Programs will generate their internal review process to determine nominations. This needs to be done by the committee to minimize conflicts of interest.
4. Student applications will be accessible to the program review committee via Slate.
(<https://grad.ucr.edu/manage/>).
5. Graduate Programs will be allowed one nomination per program for the DYFA award and one nomination for the UC-HSI DDI President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship (PPPF)

Review Criteria

- All fellowships award excellence in the student's discipline.
- There is considerable and intended diversity in discipline within the Graduate Council therefore to aid members of the Graduate Council in the reviewing process, Graduate Programs are required to submit justification for why a student excels in their discipline. Part of that justification should be in the form of a Graduate Program specific rubric generated by the program to highlight by what criteria students are evaluated.
- The Research Statement should be written in a manner that allows readers from all disciplines to understand the importance and impact of the research.
- The "Societal Contribution Statement" is a required component in which students should describe how they and their research contribute to society. This short attachment, limited to 1–2 paragraphs, replaces the previously required Diversity Statement.
- Please let your students know that writing advice specifically for these awards can be provided by the Grad Success' Writing Center.

Timeline

- Deadlines for all DYFA and UC-HSI nominations: January 16th each year.
- Nominations will be uploaded by Graduate Advisors via Slate – no applications will be directly accepted from students.
- Graduate Division will check the eligibility of nominees.
- Graduate Council will review applications and awards will be announced and made at the end of the Winter quarter.

Examples of Student Timelines

Possible Humanities Examples	Possible STEM Examples
<p>My dissertation requires extensive research at multiple specific library locations that house collections on the historical impact of social security in the 6th Century. My thesis has three major chapters discussing the development of income support in 1512 and its impact on the fishing industry; the housing incentivization in 1525 and its role in female chore building and lastly the institutionalization of poverty from 1500 onwards. I have presented papers at the international meeting on 12th Century Domestics and at the Swedish National Archives in February and April respectively. In June-July I conducted a final research visit to Saint Genevieve library in France. I have now completed all planned research visits. In October I completed the first chapter of my thesis, the introduction. This has been approved by my advisors along with my literature review. I am currently writing chapter 2. Final edits to this chapter are expected to be completed in early Winter. I will also be TAing in the Winter quarter. I plan to use the Spring quarter to write and finalize my final dissertation chapter. With the help of a DCFA I expect to finish and defend my thesis at the end of Spring or early Summer. I am on the job market and have interviewed for academic teaching positions with the aim to start in the next academic year.</p>	<p>My project investigates the role of fleb signaling in Q cell proliferation. I have 3 specific aims firstly to test the kinetics of fleb signaling following ARC Receptor stimulation; to determine the partner proteins activated by fleb following its phosphorylation and to test the role of fleb in Q proliferation by blocking its activation. I have completed the first two specific aims from which I have a first author manuscript published in Nature Fleb Reports. I am currently finalizing the analysis of the data for the third aim. These experiments have been optimized, and 2 replicate data sets have been generated. By the end of this current quarter, I will have generated the last replicate data set. The manuscript for this study is being written and I am currently revising based on my mentor's edits. I expect to submit this manuscript to the Journal of Expectations in the Winter quarter. I have started writing my thesis in parallel with my paper. Two chapters have been completed, and I believe I will have completed this writing by early Spring quarter. Revision of the manuscript and my defense will take place at the end of Spring quarter. I plan to stay in academia and am currently applying for postdoctoral positions including at UCAB on Q cell migration in the lung during infection.</p>
<p>My research uses two predominant forms of research methods: relational interviewing and theoretical and textual analysis. Relational interviewing consists of semi-structured conversations with participants around the country. I have intentionally chosen institutions at both the East and West coasts and Mid-Western parts of the USA to diversify my results. The interview portion of my research has been completed as of June 2024. As I interviewed participants, I have been writing reflections which is a major part of my second chapter and as a result chapter 2 has been straight forward</p>	<p>September: Finish the writing of the Supplementary information of my second paper and respond to the reviewers' comments of my first paper submitted to Trends in Quantodynamics. October: Finish writing the main text of my second paper and submit. Continue to finalize first paper resubmission. November: Wait for reviewer's comments to first and second papers. Conduct final experiments if needed and analyze results. December: Write draft of dissertation and discuss with advisor.</p>

<p>writing. The other chapters require theoretical and contextual analysis which has been completed. The writing of these chapters is ongoing and should be complete and ready for my advisors by the middle of Winter quarter. I expect to finalize edits and seek permission to defend in early Spring.</p>	<p>January: Continue writing dissertation and make edits according to feedback. February: Complete the dissertation writing and submit the complete draft to my committee. March: Make revisions based on committee feedback. April: Finalize dissertation, format and prepare for submission May: Submit thesis, complete my defense and graduate.</p>
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