



Graduate Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship

Purpose

The Graduate Dean’s Dissertation Fellowship (GDDF) program is intended for students in their final semester/term of graduate school, providing them time to focus solely on completion of the dissertation. This award should help enhance the awardees’ qualifications as candidates for university faculty teaching and research appointments, for postdoctoral appointments, and for research positions outside the academy.

Eligibility Requirements & Standards

- The program is open to all doctoral candidates who are advanced to candidacy at the time of completing their application, and who are **one semester/term away from completion of their degree**.
- All doctoral graduate students are eligible for this award regardless of United States citizenship.
- Awardees must have a GPA of 3.0 or above and be enrolled in 12 units during the disbursement of the award.
- A student who has previously received funding for completing their dissertation work is ineligible to receive a GDDF.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have progressed according to their program’s expected time-to-degree.
- Award recipients are expected to file their dissertation by the end of the award period.
- Fellows who have not filed their dissertations by the end of the award period are **NOT eligible for any further financial support from the Graduate Division**.
- Fellows are prohibited from being employed during the award period.

Financial Support

- Recipients will receive a fellowship as follows:

Term	Fellowship	Tuition & Fees	Campus Based Fees
Fall	\$2,750/mo for 4-mo	Included	Not Included
Spring	\$2,750/mo for 4-mo	Included	Not Included
Late Spring*	\$7,763 lump-sum for 3-mo	N/A	N/A

*Late Spring awards will disburse at the end of the spring semester/term to support the student over the months of June, July & August. This award will be considered part of the academic year in which it disburses. This award in combination with any other Late Spring award or form of summer support cannot exceed \$14,000.

Student Loan Impact

- Per federal guidelines, all fellowship and tuition support is taken into consideration when determining student loan eligibility. If you will receive federal student loans during the same

academic year as this award, please note that this award could, and most likely will, reduce your student loan eligibility.

Application, Nomination & Review Procedures

- Each graduate group offering a doctoral degree is eligible to nominate at least one Ph.D. student each academic year for a single term (Fall, Spring, or Late Spring) as indicated under the Financial Support section above. Most graduate groups will receive one award per year, though the largest group(s) may receive more than one award, depending on availability of funding. The Graduate Group Chair is responsible for determining the application and/or nomination procedures for their particular group, and the term during which the award will be made.
- The Graduate Group Chairs will then submit nominations to gradfunding@ucmerced.edu by the indicated deadline. Each nomination must include a brief description of the application and/or nomination procedures, a brief statement highlighting the nominee's qualifications for the non-expert reviewer, as well as a clear indication of the award term.
- Final award decisions will then be made by the Graduate Dean. The Graduate Division will then formally notify each awardee.

Nomination Deadlines

- Fall – August 1, 2016
- Spring – December 1, 2016
- Late Spring – March 31, 2017