



## Yara North America Almond Fellowship AY 2016-17

### Purpose

The University of California, Merced is committed to the recruitment, admission, and retention of a high quality graduate student population. In this regard, the prestigious Yara North America Almond Fellowship is intended to support UC Merced Ph.D. students. Ideally the awardee's research will inform agricultural production systems to improve crop yields, particularly in almonds. It will be expected that awardees will present their work to the donor by the end of the academic year.

### Eligibility Requirements & Standards

- Must be a current Ph.D. student at UC Merced making academic progress.
- Must be continuously enrolled in 12 or more units.
- All Ph.D. applicants are eligible, regardless of citizenship.
- Preferred research areas: soil fertility, plant nutrition, and water and nutrient use efficiency, or related fields.
- Previous awardees will be given preference for continued support.
- Awardee information may be shared with Yara North America, Inc.

### Financial Support

- The \$15,000 award is typically distributed as a \$5,000 award during the Fall, Spring, and Summer.

### Student Loan Impact

- Per federal guidelines, all fellowship and tuition support is taken into consideration when determining student loan eligibility. If the student will receive federal student loans during the same academic year as this award, please note that this award could, and most likely will, reduce their student loan eligibility.

### Application Procedures

- Apply by completing an online application at <https://gradopportunities.ucmerced.edu/grad>.
- Each application must include a one-page personal statement that speaks to how this award will help the student achieve their research/educational goals. Special consideration will be given to students whose research and/or extracurricular activities contribute to the areas of soil fertility, plant nutrition, and water and nutrient use efficiency, or related fields.
- Student must complete an application by **November 11, 2016**.
- Must include one letter of support from a UCM faculty member.
- Letters of recommendation must be submitted by **November 15, 2016**.

- Applications are provided to a committee chaired by a [SNRI](#) faculty member for review, and the committee will make recommendations to the Graduate Division. Final award decisions will be made by the Graduate Dean.