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## Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowship (GDFF)

The UCI Graduate Division is pleased to announce a fellowship for students nearing completion of their dissertations/thesis. The Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, GDFF, aims to increase dissertation and thesis completion amongst doctoral and MFA students. This award is intended for students in their final year of graduate study who have a realistic expectation of degree completion during the 2023-2024 academic year. The award will allow students to forgo their non-research related employment obligations to concentrate on completing their degree.

### Award Information

In an effort to maximize the number of students that can be supported by this fellowship, awards will be made for summer quarters only. The Graduate Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, GDFF, provides a \$5,000 stipend during summer 2023 for students nearing completion of their dissertation or thesis during the 2023-2024 academic year. Graduate Division will cover the cost of the stipend.

### Submission Deadline: Friday, April 7, 2023 at 5:00PM PST

The deadline for Schools to submit nominations to the Graduate Division is **Friday, April 7, 2023 by 5:00pm PST**. Late or incomplete nomination packets will not be reviewed. Students should check with their academic program for internal deadlines and submit a complete GDFF application form to their department. **Nominations are limited to three per school for 2022-2023. At this time, College of Health Sciences are limited to two nominations per school/program.**

### Forms

- [Student Application Form](#)
- [Department Nomination Form](#)
- [School Nomination Form](#)

### Qualifications

- Full-time Ph.D./MFA students nearing the completion of their dissertation or thesis.
- Nominees must provide evidence in their application that the timeframe to file their degree is reasonable.
- Academic merit.
- Need for release from non-research related employment.
- Realistic expectation that the student is near degree completion.
- Nominees may not be past their academic program's maximum time-to-degree.
- United States Citizens, Permanent Residents, AB540, and, International Students are eligible to be nominated

### Application Process

Schools are asked to set internal deadlines and collect the student applications accordingly. Based on merit, schools will then forward nominations of the students to the Graduate Division by Friday, April 7, 2023 at 5pm.

**Students:** complete and submit the [GDDF Student Application Form](#) electronically to their academic department, along with the following:

- Student Statement (500 words max)
  - Brief description of status of research and progress to date
  - Detailed plan & timeline for completion
  - Explanation of how fellowship will help complete degree within timeframe. *Review the application for additional details.*
  - Description of past employment while a graduate student
  - Listing of all extramural, departmental, and Graduate Division fellowships or other financial support received, including pending applications with year and amount
- Supplemental Documents
  - Confirm internal deadlines with your academic department
  - Current version of the student's Curriculum Vitae (CV)
  - UCI unofficial academic transcript
  - Letter of recommendation from student's dissertation committee chair
  - Save the **GDDF Fellowship Student Application form**

**Departments:** complete the [GDDF Department Nomination Form](#) for each student the department is nominating for the School/College phase of the selection process.

**Schools/College:** submit completed documentation for the **top 3** for their school and **top 2** for each school/program in the College of Health Sciences using the [GDDF School Nomination Form](#).

## Stipulations

- GDDF fellows are required to file their dissertation during the **2023-2024** academic year and **must file their degree no later than summer 2024.**
- **Department/Schools/Colleges will be required to re-pay the awarded funds to the Graduate Division if the filing requirement is not met.**
- GDDF fellows cannot hold any university employment above 25% including but not limited to TA/Associate/Reader/Tutor or GSR/GSAR positions during the summer fellowship term, which does not apply during the 2023-2024 academic year.
- GDDF fellows are no longer eligible for Graduate Division fellowship funding after the end of the summer fellowship term.
- If students have applied for and accepted Financial Aid loans or Work-Study awards and subsequently receive any fellowships, the additional support may affect their eligibility for need-based financial aid. Students should contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships to determine if their eligibility will be affected.
- Students should review the terms of any funding that they have accepted for the 2023-2024 academic year to ensure that they are eligible to receive additional fellowship funding

## Contact

E-Mail: [Fellowships@exchange.uci.edu](mailto:Fellowships@exchange.uci.edu)

*Before this fellowship is awarded, we will be checking Winter grades to make sure the awardee(s) is/are in good academic standing. Prospective awardees not in good academic standing risk being removed from consideration of fellowship disbursement.*