

## 2017–18 YATES FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

### I. MISSION

The mission of the Albert C. Yates Fellowship Program at the University of Cincinnati is to enrich the educational environment for all graduate students by supporting the recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority groups who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents with high potential for academic success as full-time students in UC graduate programs.

### II. SELECTION CRITERIA

Students of ethnicities underrepresented in the applying program are eligible for a Yates Fellowship. Underrepresented minorities include, but not limited to, the following groups:

African American  
Asian/ Pacific Islander  
Latino/a or Hispanic American  
Native American/Alaskan Native

In all cases, applying programs/departments must document that the student's ethnicity is underrepresented *within the graduate program* to the satisfaction of the Yates selection committee.

Furthermore, students who are currently in a UC graduate program or have already received a UC graduate degree are *not* eligible for the Yates Fellowship Program. Students who have earned an undergraduate degree from UC are still eligible.

Awards will be made on the basis of:

- Student's potential for academic achievement.\*
- Student's application packet, including (but not limited to) grades, test scores, recommendation letters and written statement.
- Student's status as a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Rationale provided by the program of underrepresentation of student's ethnicity within the program.
- Strength of the program's recommendation.
- Strength of the program's plan for academic and mentoring support of the student.
- Strength of the program's financial plan for recruiting and retaining the student. Plan must include the required number of terms of summer support and a timeline for the full disbursement of Yates funds.

*\*Potential may be measured by past academic performance, demonstrated skills, outstanding accomplishment, tenacious attitude and/or other qualities deemed appropriate by the selection committee.*

### III. AWARD STRUCTURE

The Graduate School will provide a single lump sum to the program of each selected Yates Fellow to support student living expenses: \$25,000 for students entering a doctoral program and \$20,000 for students entering a master's degree program. As described below, programs must spread the funds over the years of the student's graduate program to support the successful recruitment and retention of the student.

Each Yates Fellow will also have access to additional funds to defray some of the cost of Graduate Student Health Insurance. If students need this university-supplied insurance, they will receive up to \$1,000/year for several years (3 years for doctoral students and up to 2 years for master's students). When this benefit is combined with the [GSHI award for graduate assistants and fellows](#), the yearly cost of health insurance will be negligible.

In addition, the Graduate School will provide a 100% [Graduate Assistant Scholarship](#) for each Yates Fellow. This GAS award will continue for 4 academic years for doctoral students and up to 2 years for master's students. To maintain eligibility for funding as a Yates Fellow, the student must be registered for at least 12 credits/term, remain in good academic standing (GPA 3.0 or greater) and make satisfactory progress toward the degree.

The following guidelines govern the use of the lump sum provided to programs in support of successful student recruitment and retention:

- a. If programs do not include summer funding in their regular stipends, they must use Yates funds to pay multiple summer stipends for Yates Fellows. For doctoral students, at least 3 summers must be funded. For master's students, either one or two summers must be funded, depending on the length of the graduate program.
- b. All monies awarded to the program for each Yates Fellow must be received by the student, regardless of the periodicity of disbursement. Yates stipends are *supplementary* to GA awards. These stipends do not replace the graduate assistantship award given to a student.
- c. Graduate School funds should not be associated with any work assignments. For example, if funds are used to support summer stipends, students should not be required to work during the summer.
- d. Yates Fellows may still have student work assignments, but they must be paid by other funds for those assignments. The depth of accessory student service work should be balanced against the academic expectations of rapid student progress.
- e. All Yates Fellows receiving graduate assistantships must receive at least the same level of support as graduate assistants with similar responsibilities in the program as long as they are attending full time (12 credits/term) and making satisfactory progress toward their degree (GPA 3.0 or greater).
- f. During each semester of the Yates Fellow's first year, the program must provide an end-of-term progress report (around week 13) to the Graduate School from the faculty adviser regarding the student's academic progress to date (including grades) and departmental integration.

### IV. APPLICATION AND AWARDS PROCESS

Programs must complete the following steps in their application proposal:

- For Yates Fellows receiving graduate assistantships, affirm their support of the fellow with *at least* the same level of funding as other graduate assistants with equal responsibility in the program

- Present their allocation plan for the Yates funding
- Provide a thorough plan for academic and mentoring support of the fellow
- Describe their record of graduating underrepresented students from the program

The award letter from the associate university dean of the Graduate School (Dr. James Mack) will be accompanied by a letter from the student's program director outlining a specific timetable for the disbursement of funds over the student's residency, beginning with matriculation.

Should a student be dismissed or leave before completing the degree, the academic program must report the reason for the attrition.