

GRADUATE DEAN'S EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

I. MISSION

The mission of the Graduate Dean's Excellence Scholarship is to enrich the educational environment for all graduate students at the University of Cincinnati through encouraging a greater diversity of ideas, cultures and people at the university. The scholarship has a high priority to support the recruitment of underrepresented minority groups who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents with high potential for academic success in UC **doctoral** programs.

II. ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Eligibility:

- Students must not be current or previous UC graduate students.
- Students must be entering their first UC doctoral program in fall semester.
- Students must be offered a full-time tuition scholarship by the admitting program.
- Students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents at the time of nomination.

Selection:

Students of ethnicities underrepresented in the nominating program will have high priority for the award. Underrepresented minorities include:

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

Awards will be made on the basis of:

High potential for academic achievement*
The strength of the department's recommendation
The nominee's graduate application
Ability to increase student diversity

**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 incentive scholarships of \$3,000 to encourage matriculation of students in doctoral programs that will increase student diversity. This is a one-time award and does not recur annually. This award is to be used by programs to recruit eligible students to UC for full-time doctoral work. Students must be registered full-time (12 credit hours or more) for fall semester to receive the scholarship.

The incentive scholarship is in addition (i.e., supplementary) to any graduate assistantship awards or scholarships already available to the student and does **not** replace an award given to a student with similar responsibilities. The purpose of the award is to incentivize strong candidates to accept admission to UC. The award **cannot** be used to fund an award that has been or will be made by the program to the student.

The award letter from the Graduate School can be accompanied by the program's offer letter(s). An Excellence Scholarship *cannot be offered to a student before* the offer of the full-time tuition scholarship is made; however, the offer letters may be sent together.

Only students with full-time tuition scholarship are eligible to receive the award. Students who do not receive a full-time tuition scholarship will not be eligible for this award. Students who reject the full-time scholarship offer will also not be eligible for the award.

Once the student accepts both the tuition scholarship and Excellence Scholarship, the program must send copies of *both* signed offer letters (if the student has not already done so) to the Graduate School office (gsfellows@ucmail.uc.edu or ML 0627).

The \$3,000 award will be credited to the student's account for the fall semester term via a departmental award in Catalyst. Any credit balance on the student's account resulting from the Excellence Scholarship and the full-time tuition scholarship will be paid out to the student as a credit balance refund.

IV. Nomination Process

Nominations will be accepted from doctoral programs on a rolling basis. Programs may nominate students at any point before the start of fall semester. There is no limit on the number of nominations a program may submit, although programs are advised to nominate students who are strong candidates for admission. Please allow the Graduate School 2-3 weeks to process each nomination.