

Graduate School Awards, 2019–20

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Graduate School Awards at a Glance

Name	Eligibility	Funds Awarded
CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award	Doctoral students who have graduated within 2-year period w/dissertation	\$350
Dean’s Completion Fellowship	Doctoral students on track to graduate within a year of receiving award	tuition scholarship, \$20,000 stipend
Editorial Assistance Awards	Faculty journal editors	Varies; funds for student worker <i>or</i> GA
Excellence in Mentoring of Doctoral Students Award	Full-time graduate school faculty who advise/mentor doctoral students	\$1,500 (and recognized at spring hooding ceremony)
Excellence in Teaching Award for GAs	TA during the current year	\$1,000
Excellence Scholarship	Incoming doctoral student* w/full-time scholarship who increases diversity in the accepting program	\$3,000
GSHI Award A and B	Graduate assistant or fellow in the UC payroll system	\$803 per eligible semester
MAGS Distinguished Thesis	Master’s students who have graduated within 2-year period w/thesis	\$150
Presidential Medal (PMGSE)	Master’s/doctoral students who have graduated/will graduate during current AY	N/A (students recognized at awards ceremony, commencement)

Provost Graduate Fellowships	Incoming PhD students* of ethnicities underrepresented in the nominating program	\$25,000/year plus tuition for three years; \$1,000/year for SHI costs
Yates Fellowship Program	Incoming master's and doctoral students* of ethnicities underrepresented in the nominating program	lump sum of \$25,000 (doctoral) or \$20,000 (master's); \$1,000/year for SHI costs; tuition for 4 years (doctoral) or up to 2 (master's)

*Must be new to UC as a graduate student

CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award

Each year, UC chooses one dissertation per eligible category to nominate to the national CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award competition. Social Sciences and Mathematics/Physical Sciences/Engineering dissertations are considered on even years, and Biological/Life Sciences and Humanities/Fine Arts dissertations are considered on odd years.

- Eligibility: doctoral students who have completed a dissertation and who have graduated within a two-year period
- Purpose: selecting nominees for national award competition; as stated by the CGS website, the award recognizes “individuals who, in the opinion of the award committee, have completed dissertations representing original work that makes an unusually significant contribution to the discipline.”
- Funds awarded: \$350 to each student nominated by the Graduate School to the national competition
- Nomination cycle: nominations are accepted year-round in all four categories
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#)
- [Graduate School webpage for CGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award](#)

Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship

The Graduate School Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship (formerly known as the Dean's Fellowship) awards up to five fellowships annually to doctoral students in the final year of degree work to support superior scholarship that enhances the reputation of their program, department and the University of Cincinnati.

- Eligibility: doctoral students who are on track to graduate within a year of receiving the award; nominations limited to one per program and are made by GPD. Student who do not graduate by the end of the fellowship year will not be eligible for university funding in the following year.
- Purpose: dissertation completion fellowship
- Funds awarded: five fellowships (tuition and \$20K stipend)
- Nomination cycle: opens late October; nominations due mid-December
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#)
- [Webpage for Dean's Dissertation Completion Fellowship](#)

Editorial Assistance Awards

The Graduate School previously offered the Editorial Assistantship Award (which provided funding for a GA) and the Editor Assistance Grants (which provided funding for a student worker). The two awards

now fall under the umbrella name of “Editorial Assistance Awards,” with the Graduate School offering two levels of support for faculty journal editors. Editors who apply for, but are not chosen to receive the GA support will automatically be considered for the student worker support.

- Eligibility: faculty members who are journal editors
- Purpose: support faculty members who choose to take on significant journal editing responsibilities
- Funds awarded: tuition and \$14,500 stipend for GA; funds for student worker hourly wages (lump sum, assuming \$15/hour pay)
- Application cycle: opens late September; applications due early November
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#)
- [Webpage for Editorial Assistance Awards](#)

Excellence in Mentoring of Doctoral Students Award

The Excellence in Mentoring of Doctoral Students Award recognizes full-time graduate school faculty for outstanding and sustained guidance and support of students as they move through the process of becoming experts in their chosen fields. Nominees should have a clear and convincing history of successfully guiding the professional development of doctoral students, and they may have a distinguished record of supervising students who have gone on to make significant contributions to their fields. This award is presented at the Doctoral Hooding ceremony in April.

- Eligibility: full-time graduate school faculty who advise and mentor *doctoral* students
- Purpose: recognize faculty members who provide outstanding mentorship and guidance to doctoral students
- Funds awarded: \$1,500
- Nomination cycle: opens mid-November; nominations due early February
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#)
- [Webpage for Excellence in Mentoring of Doctoral Students Award](#)

Excellence in Teaching Award for GAs

The Graduate School's annual Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes one outstanding master's teaching assistant and one outstanding doctoral teaching assistant for their achievements in the classroom. The award consists of a check for \$1,000 for each awardee and a certificate citing the recipient's outstanding teaching. Each of the master's and the doctoral graduate assistants nominated by his or her college will also receive a certificate of award for being chosen as the college's nomination. The UC Excellence in Teaching Award master's student winner and doctoral student winner will be nominated for a Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Excellence in Teaching Award.

- Eligibility: Graduate students who have served as TAs during the current year; programs may nominate one master's and one doctoral student to college
- Purpose: Recognize outstanding TAs for their achievements and contributions in the classroom; select students to represent UC in the regional MAGS Excellence in Teaching Award competition
- Funds awarded: \$1,000 per student (one master's student, one doctoral student winner)
- Nomination cycle: opens in September; departmental nominations due to college contact by mid-October, and college awardees due to the Graduate School by early November
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#)
- [Webpage for Excellence in Teaching Award for GAs](#)

Excellence Scholarship

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 diversity in graduate programs through the recruitment of U.S. citizens or permanent residents with high potential for academic success in UC doctoral programs.

- Eligibility: incoming doctoral student (new to UC as a graduate student) with a full-time scholarship; the student increases diversity in the accepting program
- Purpose: incentive award; increase diversity in graduate programs
- Funds awarded: one-time payment of \$3,000 to student on fall semester bill
- Nomination cycle: n/a, applications accepted on a rolling basis throughout spring and summer semester
- Contact person: gradconnect@ucmail.uc.edu
- [Webpage for Excellence Scholarship](#)

GSHI Award A and B

Award A applies in the fall semester and continues to apply to the spring semester health insurance costs if the student qualifies in the spring semester. Award B applies ONLY to spring semester health insurance costs.

- Eligibility: graduate assistants/fellows, earning a minimum of \$2,400 per term via UC Payroll
- Purpose: cover part of the cost of student health insurance
- Funds awarded: \$803 per eligible semester, maximum award of \$1,606 per academic year (we cannot guarantee this level of funding for years beyond 2019–20)
- Application cycle: early July to late August for Award A; mid-November to early January for Award B
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#) and [Tim Bybee](#); gshi@uc.edu for student inquiries
- [Webpage for GSHI Award A and B](#)

MAGS Distinguished Thesis

Each year, UC chooses one dissertation per eligible category to nominate to the regional MAGS/ProQuest Distinguished Master's Thesis Awards competition. Biological/Life Sciences and Humanities/Fine Arts dissertations are considered on even years, and Social Sciences and Mathematics/Physical Sciences/Engineering dissertations are considered on odd years.

- Eligibility: master's students who have completed a thesis and who have graduated within a two-year period
- Purpose: select UC students to nominate to the regional MAGS competition; per the MAGS website, "The awards are to recognize and reward distinguished scholarship and research at the master's level."
- Funds awarded: \$150 per student nominated to MAGS
- Nomination cycle: opens early September; nominations due early October
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#)
- [Graduate School webpage for MAGS Distinguished Thesis Award](#)

Presidential Medal of Graduate Student Excellence (PMGSE)

Established in 2017, the Presidential Medal of Graduate Student Excellence is a prestigious honor awarded by the university president to exceptional graduate students who are graduating from their master's or doctoral program. These students best exemplify scholarship, leadership, character, service and the ideals of the University of Cincinnati. Recipients will be recognized at the All University Recognition Ceremony and the spring Doctoral Hooding Ceremony and Master's and Undergraduate Ceremony.

- Eligibility: Master's or doctoral student who has graduated or will graduate during the academic year
- Purpose: Recognize graduating graduate students for outstanding research, leadership and service
- Funds awarded: N/A, each recipient receives a medal and is recognized at various events
- Nomination cycle: opens October; nominations due November
- Contact person: GSGA officers (typically, the current GSGA president, president.ucgsga@gmail.com)
- [Webpage for PMGSE award](#)

Provost Graduate Fellowships

Offered for the first time in 2016, the Provost Graduate Fellowships provides grants for promising new PhD students whose presence diversifies our institution and the academy. Generously funded by Provost Kristi Nelson, these new awards signify the commitment of UC's leadership to making graduate education mirror the demographics of American society.

- Eligibility: PhD students of ethnicities underrepresented in the nominating program; departments nominate one student
- Purpose: increase diversity in the current graduate student population with the end goal of diversifying the future faculty body; Provost fellows are required to attend monthly meetings with Yates fellows
- Funds awarded: \$25,000/year plus tuition for three years; \$1,000/year for SHI costs
- Nomination cycle: opens early December; nominations due early February
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#); for general inquires, contact provost@uc.edu
- [Webpage for Provost Graduate Fellowships](#)

Yates Fellowship Program

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 to graduate programs at the University of Cincinnati. Programs must nominate incoming students for the Yates.

- Eligibility: students of ethnicities underrepresented in the nominating program; students must be new to UC as a graduate student and beginning a full-time, on-campus program in fall; programs nominate up to three students
- Purpose: support the recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority groups through funding and student programming; Yates fellows (along with Provost fellows) are required to attend monthly meetings
- Funds awarded: lump sum of \$25,000 (doctoral students) or \$20,000 (master's students); \$1,000/year for SHI costs; tuition for 4 years (doctoral) or up to 2 (master's)

- Nomination cycle: opens mid-December; nominations for round one due by early February, nominations for round two due by early March, nominations for third (and final) round due mid-April
- Contact person: [Megan Tischner](#); for general inquiries, contact yates@uc.edu
- [Webpage for Yates Fellowship Program](#)