MU GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS

Note: Students cannot apply for these fellowships; they must be nominated by a program on campus. Programs can nominate newly admitted students during the spring fellowship competition.

5-Year Doctoral-Level Fellowship Programs

All of the following programs are reserved for graduate students newly admitted into doctoral degree programs. Each provides 5 years of support plus a tuition waiver and insurance subsidy.

George Washington Carver Fellowships: Established in 2001 by the chancellor of the University of Missouri, the G. W. Carver Fellowship is awarded to the most highly ranked fellowship nominee who is a U.S. citizen, newly accepted into a doctoral degree program in any field, and a member of an underrepresented ethnic minority population (African American, Native American or Alaska Native, Hispanic or Latinx). The nominee must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA.

William Gregory Fellowships: Endowed by St. Louis dry goods merchant, Charles R. Gregory, in memory of his brother, William, the Gregory Fellowship has since 1914 furthered the academic careers of many of MU’s most outstanding graduate students. Awards can be made to doctoral students in any discipline. Nominees must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA. International students are eligible for nomination for this fellowship.

Adeline Hoffman Fellowships: Established in 1981, this program is for newly admitted doctoral students who have and maintain a 3.5 GPA, with special consideration for those in a human sciences area (e.g., Personal Financial Planning, Architectural Studies, Human Development and Family Science, Nutrition and Exercise Physiology, and Textile and Apparel Management). International students are eligible for nomination for this fellowship.

G. Ellsworth Huggins Scholarships: This program was established in 1979 with a $3.5 million bequest from G. Ellsworth Huggins, the largest gift up to that date received by the University of Missouri. Awards can be made to doctoral students in any field, with special consideration given to students from Huggins’s birthplace (Barton County, MO), especially graduates from schools in Lamar, MO. Nominees must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA. International students are eligible for nomination for this fellowship.

Stanley L. Maxwell Scholarships: This program was established in 2001 with a gift from the Maxwell estate. It provides merit scholarships for graduate students. Nominees for this 5-year doctoral award must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA. International students are eligible for nomination for this fellowship.
Gus T. Ridgel Fellowships: Named in honor of the first African American student to earn a graduate degree at MU, this fellowship program was established in 1987 to assist qualified underrepresented minority graduate students (African American, Native American or Alaska Native, Hispanic or Latinx) in any field at the University of Missouri. Recipients must be U.S. citizens. Nominees must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA.

Robert E. Waterston Award: Established in 2001 by Robert E. Waterston, this 5-year doctoral award is used to support doctoral students and can be made to graduate students in any discipline. Nominees must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA. International students are eligible for nomination for this fellowship.

Master’s, Specialist, or Doctoral Fellowship and Scholarship Programs

AmeriCorps/VISTA/Teach for America/Missouri Advising Corps Graduate Fellowships: Established in 1998, this program is designed to reward volunteers who recently completed assignments in these service organizations and are accepted into master’s, specialist, or doctoral degree programs in fields related to their prior service and oriented toward a relevant career. Awardees receive support for years equal to the number of years of service in AmeriCorps, VISTA, Teach for America, or Missouri Advising Corps. The fellowship amount is equivalent to the current value of a .25 FTE assistantship from the Office of Graduate Studies. The nomination materials must include evidence of the number of years of AmeriCorps/VISTA/Teach for America/Missouri Advising Corps service. Nominees must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA.

David R. Francis Fellowships: With an endowment from former Missouri Governor David R. Francis (1850-1927), this fellowship program was established in 1927. Awards are for graduate students newly admitted into master’s or doctoral degree programs in either public affairs or creative literature. The nomination materials for this fellowship program from creative literature applicants must include an original composition. International students are eligible for nomination for this fellowship.

Ronald E. McNair Fellowships: Established in 2001, this program is named in honor of Ronald E. McNair (1950-1986), physicist, astronaut, and crew member of the space shuttle Challenger. The program is designed to support newly admitted master’s, specialist, or doctoral students in any field who successfully completed a Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program at a university prior to beginning the MU graduate program. Nominees must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA. Fellowship applicants must include a letter from the McNair Director at the Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program at the university where they completed the McNair Program. If a student received a McNair Fellowship as part of degree program at MU, they are not eligible for a second McNair Fellowship, but may be eligible for others.

Master’s- or Specialist-Level Fellowship and Scholarship Programs

Graduate School Fellowships: This fellowship program is designed to assist departments in recruiting and retaining graduate students who are U.S. citizens and have been newly admitted to a master’s or specialist degree program at MU in any field. Support is $8,200 per year for up to 2
years (maximum award of $16,400) from the Graduate School, with a contribution equivalent to the current value of a .25 FTE assistantship required from the department/program for each year. Departmental support may consist of a fellowship or a fee-waiver qualifying teaching or research assistantship. Nominees must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA.

**Thurgood Marshall Academic Scholarships:** Named in honor of the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall (1908-1993), this program is designed to assist departments in recruiting and retaining newly admitted master’s students from underrepresented ethnic minority populations (African American, Native American or Alaska Native, Hispanic or Latinx). Recipients must be U.S. citizens. Support is $8,200 each year for up to 2 years (maximum award $16,400) from the Office of Graduate Studies, with a contribution equivalent to the current value of a .25 FTE assistantship required from the department/program for each year. Departmental support may consist of a fellowship and/or a fee-waiver qualifying teaching or research assistantship. Nominees must have and maintain a 3.5 GPA.

**Extramural Funding Programs**

Individual students may apply directly for external fellowships. The Graduate School maintains a list of external funding opportunities at https://gradstudies.missouri.edu/funding/assistantships-fellowships/external-fellowships/. In addition to financial support, winners of external fellowships typically receive a waiver of tuition and a medical insurance subsidy option, unless the award program from the funding organization is designed to cover such costs (e.g., NSF GRFP). Students with qualifying external fellowships must have their stipends and other payments made by the external agency through the MU Financial Aid Office.

**Departmental/Program Support**

Departments/programs administer many fellowships, scholarships, traineeships and other financial assistance programs for graduate students. For additional information, students should contact the unit’s department chair/director or Director of Graduate Studies (DGS).