

2015-2016 Graduate Equity Program

Thank you for your interest in the Graduate Equity Program. This program is designed to increase the diversity of students completing a master's degree and encourage further study in PhD programs. It does so by supporting the aspirations of CSUN graduate students who have experienced economic and educational disadvantages. This fellowship is only available to California residents who are admitted and enrolled in a CSUN State supported master's degree program. Credential-only or certificate candidates are not eligible.

The program provides fellowships up to \$4,000 to CSUN Master's students enrolled in the 2015/2016 academic year. The fellowships are intended to minimize students' debt burden, allowing them to complete their program more quickly and speed their pursuit of doctoral studies.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

In order to be eligible, an applicant must:

- Have a minimum of 3.25 cumulative GPA
- Be currently classified & enrolled in a graduate degree program (6 units minimum)
- Enroll each semester in 2015/2016 in a minimum of 6 graduate program units
- Earn and maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better
- Be a resident of the State of California
- Complete an application form, including a personal statement and 2 faculty recommendation letters
- Demonstrate a minimum need of \$1000 by filing a 2015-2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form

In addition to meeting the general eligibility requirements, the strongest candidates will:

- Demonstrate a record of strong academic performance
- Demonstrate significant financial need
- Express an interest in completing a doctoral program
- Demonstrate experience in conducting research or other scholarly activities and/or teaching

What must you do if selected?

You must prepare an oral or poster presentation of your scholarly activity for the CSUN Annual Student Research Symposium in Spring 2016. This is a mandatory requirement.

Award Notification and Disbursement:

Email notification will be sent as soon as a determination is made. However, the actual funding for the fellowship is normally disbursed in October. Please note that the award of this fellowship may adjust or reduce other forms of aid in your financial aid package. If you have questions about how the fellowship may affect your aid package, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

Applications are due to the Graduate Studies Office (University Hall room 275) by **Monday, May 25, 2015**. Incomplete or late packages will not be accepted.

For more information please email hedy.carpenter@csun.edu.