

UNIVERSITY GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS 2020-21

The Graduate School offers fellowship programs that provide financial support for outstanding students who plan to enroll in a doctoral or Master of Fine Arts program. We are particularly aware of the special role that graduate education plays in training the next generation of leaders in academia, government and the private sector. In assisting MSU achieve its educational mission, our goal is to foster an intellectually vital educational community that will prepare graduate students to assume their professional roles in a diverse society. The Graduate School's recruitment fellowships support departments and programs in their goal of attracting a cohort of students who:

- have demonstrated academic excellence
- articulate their commitment to research goals well matched to department or program doctoral emphasis areas
- show evidence of leadership potential or of the capacity to make a distinctive professional or scholarly contribution
- contribute to a diverse educational community, as evidenced in personal history and experience, research goals, or the promotion of understanding among persons of different backgrounds and ideas
- have different racial, ethnic, gender, socioeconomic, geographic and disciplinary backgrounds

Two fellowship awards are available, each of which carries the same stipend and benefits:

UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIPS

recognize academic achievement, research goals, demonstrated leadership potential, and contribution to a diverse educational community.

UNIVERSITY ENRICHMENT FELLOWSHIPS

recognize academic achievement, research goals, contribution to a diverse educational community, and a record of overcoming obstacles.

University Fellowship recipients will receive a 12-month stipend of \$29,000 plus health insurance. In addition, tuition and related fees will be waived within the limits described below. Stipends are reviewed annually and may be increased for future years. Fellows must maintain strong academic performance and make normal progress toward their degrees. Doctoral students will receive a total of 5 years of support. The first and fifth (or final) years are funded by the Graduate School, with no teaching or research service required. In the middle years, students are supported by a research or teaching assistantship. MFA students are jointly supported by the Graduate School and their department for 3 years.

During the first fellowship year, tuition and related fees are paid for a maximum of 10 credits during fall and spring semesters and 5 credits during summer semester. In the final year, tuition and fees are paid for a maximum of 3 credits per semester. While on a departmental assistantship, normal registration is 6-9 credits. These registrations may include directed readings, research, or special projects. Fellows may arrange for a leave of absence during the summer with an appropriate stipend adjustment.



Founded in 1855, Michigan State University was one of the first institutions of higher learning in the nation to commit itself to the education of all citizens. Its distinguished history of access and excellence continues to this day as it provides graduate students with unique opportunities to make a difference through teaching, research, and public service.

At Michigan State, some 2,000 faculty members in more than a hundred master's and doctoral programs await the opportunity to prepare new graduate students for the discovery, integration, application, and dissemination of knowledge.

ELIGIBILITY

Departments, programs and colleges may nominate students whom they have admitted for a doctoral or Master of Fine Arts program and who are external applicants to MSU. Students must possess a baccalaureate degree. Only citizens or permanent residents of the United States are eligible. Applications may not be made directly to the fellowship programs; students must be accepted into a degree program and must be nominated by their program and their college.

To receive an overview of graduate education at Michigan State University, please visit The Graduate School's website at grad.msu.edu.

Students interested in the Graduate School fellowships may obtain an application for admission to Michigan State University from their department of interest or an online application at grad.msu.edu/apply.

The application for admission serves as an application for most forms of support provided by MSU, including the graduate fellowships. However, individual graduate programs may have their own fellowship application procedures. It is recommended that your application be received at MSU by December 15, 2019. Some program deadlines are earlier than this. Students should contact their intended major department for more information. Fellowship decisions will be announced in February and March.

The best way to learn about Michigan State University is to visit campus. University offices are typically open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Graduate School strongly recommends scheduling appointments with academic departments or with specific faculty members; appointments are not necessary to visit other campus offices and facilities.

For questions about the fellowship programs, contact:

Dr. Judith Stoddart

Senior Associate Dean, The Graduate School

stoddart@grd.msu.edu // 517-355-0301