

Blazer Graduate Research Fellowship Program- Year 2 and Beyond



Blazer Graduate Research Fellowship Program

- New program for 2017
- Fellowships awarded annually to outstanding, highly qualified first year doctoral trainees
- Provides financial support including stipend, tuition, and health insurance to select first year doctoral students training across our campus
- 101 graduate students awarded these fellowships in the first year



Period of Support

- Financial support provided for four 4 consecutive academic terms (16 months)
- All financial support contingent on satisfactory performance per Program and Graduate School policies.
- At the conclusion of the Blazer Graduate Fellowship, students will be supported by the intra- or extramural grant awards of the fellow's mentor, institutional training grants, individual fellowship awards, or start-up packages in the case of new faculty
- Fellows can spend up to a maximum of 2 academic terms as a Graduate Teaching Assistant (TA) per Program curriculum requirements.

Stipend Amounts

- Our goal- \$29K for STEM programs and \$26K for non-STEM programs
- **Exceptions?**
- This level of stipend support continues throughout the Fellow's training, provided satisfactory progress is being made per Program and Graduate School policies

Selection Process

- Number of Blazer Graduate Research Fellows supported per individual Program is based upon the capacity of Program faculty to provide support
- Assessed annually
- Graduate Program Recruitment Assessment Form turned into the Graduate School



GRADUATE PROGRAM RECRUITMENT ASSESSMENT FORM

Program Directors must submit the Recruitment Assessment Form to the Graduate School documenting their funding capacity by providing evidence of financial support for the number of new student's being recruited. This form should be signed by the Program Director and Department Chair for Programs housed in a single department, or by a Program Director and School or College Associate Dean/Dean for Programs which are interdisciplinary and across department or School/College boundaries.

Graduate Program Name: _____
(PLEASE PRINT)

PV/ Faculty Member	Funding Source / Grant Number	Project Period	Current Year Direct Costs	Number of Students Requested
			Total Number of Recruits: _____	

Program Director / Printed Name_____
Chairman / Print Name_____
Program Director, Signature / Date_____
Chairman, Signature / Date_____
School Associate Dean, or Dean Signature / Date

Return the completed form to: Lister Hill Library, suite G03.

Changes in the Selection Process for the 2017/2018 Academic Year

- Graduate Program Recruitment Assessment Form will be sent out later this month
- The form must be filled out, signed, and turned into the Graduate School by **12/1/17**
- Nominations for Blazer Graduate Research Fellows can be submitted as early as **10/15/17**, provided the Assessment Form has been received and approved by the Graduate School
- Nominations will be considered up to **4/1/18**
- All programs must adhere to the **April 15th** deadline for honoring offers for admission
- Signed Blazer Fellow letters due by **5/15/18**



Blazer Graduate Fellowship Oversight Committee

- Will oversee the selection process
- We are currently convening a committee of Associate Deans or other designees chosen by each academic School/College Dean to serve on this committee
- This committee will be chaired by Dan Bullard (me)
- Lori McMahon will serve in an ex officio capacity



Mentor Selection Form

- The Mentor Selection Form must be signed by the Fellow, the Mentor, and the Chair of the department where Mentors hold his/her primary appointment
- Signed form should be submitted to the Program Director and Graduate School
- Signing the Mentor Selection Form confirms commitment of the mentor and/or department to provide full funding of stipend, tuition, and health insurance for the fellow throughout the training period up to defense of the PhD

GRADUATE MENTOR SELECTION FORM

Student Name: _____ Graduate School Start Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Identify your choice of mentor: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Please enter your Graduate Program affiliation: _____

Student Signature / Date_____
Mentor Signature / Date_____
Mentor Primary Appointment Dept/Division

Signatures of the Program Director and of the Chair of your faculty mentor's primary appointment department are also required.

Final Approval:

Chairman / Print Name_____
Program Director, / Printed Name_____
Chairman, Primary Department_____
Program Director, Primary Department_____
*Chairman, Signature / Date_____
Program Director, Signature / Date_____
School Associate Dean, or Dean Signature / Date

The above named student will become the financial responsibility of the graduate mentor and department effective 16 months after his/her graduate school start date mentioned above. All transfers are effective the first day of the month. By accepting this student, you are agreeing to provide full funding of stipend, tuition, and health insurance for the fellow throughout the training period up to defense of the PhD.

*Signature confirms that should the mentor lose funding, the student's stipend, tuition, and health insurance will be covered by the department/school.

Return the completed form to: Lister Hill Library, suite G03.

Blazer Graduate Research Fellows- Expectations and Assessment

- Should all eligible Blazer Graduate Fellows be required to apply for individual fellowships?
- Annual Review of each Fellow?
- Your ideas?