

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
2021 Dean's Doctoral Fellowships**

Call for Applications

Deadlines:

Noon, Friday, September 25, 2020

The 2021 Fellowships are intended to support students initiating their doctoral studies in the 2021-2022 academic year. All doctoral programs within the College are eligible to apply, including past recipients of the Chancellor's and Dean's Doctoral Fellowship.

PURPOSE & OVERVIEW

The Dean's Doctoral Fellowships (DDF) are intended to strengthen KU's recruitment and retention of the very best doctoral students and to promote a culture of grant-seeking among the College's doctoral students and academic units. Programs are expected to fully support the Fellows' efforts to seek external funding. This may include one-on-one mentoring, early involvement in faculty grant applications, or direct support for the development of external funding applications in the form of a workshop. Department/program efforts that encourage external grant seeking among all doctoral students in the program are especially encouraged.

Dean's Fellows will receive a \$27,500 stipend plus resident rate tuition and required fees for a minimum of four and up to five years of doctoral study. One of these years will be supported through a College-funded GRA. Departments/programs may elect to award this GRA at any time during the Fellow's first, second, or third year of study. Three additional years of study must be funded by the department/program at the same level of support through either GRA or GTA (.50 appointment) funds.

Dean's Fellows will receive a second year of College-funded GRA (for a total of 5 years of funding) upon submission of an application for an external grant or fellowship. In the event of a successful external application, the student will still receive the funds allocated for the 2nd year of College-funded GRA support, in a manner to be determined in consultation between the College, the doctoral program, and the student.

PROGRAM APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Four Dean's Fellowships will be awarded to selected doctoral programs. Receiving programs may offer the Fellowship to the applicant of their choice. The review committee is appointed by the Dean and provides for representation from all divisions in the College. The committee will assess the merits of each program application in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Recruitment goals are clear and realistic, and include discipline-appropriate diversity goals. There is a specific strategy in place to achieve those goals. The approach to recruitment results in a strong pool of competitive applicants each year or holds great promise to significantly improve the applicant pool in the near term.
2. The approach to mentoring supports student retention and successful completion of the degree. Mentoring contributes to an inclusive environment for all graduate students.

3. Attrition rates, including those of underrepresented minority students, are consistent with or better than disciplinary and/or national norms OR the program is taking significant steps to improve student retention. Attrition late in the program is minimal.
4. The program affirms the importance of grant funding to research in the discipline and communicates this priority to students. The program has a concrete plan to support grant-seeking among its graduate students.

In addition to the application materials, the selection committee will also consult program data available from the office of Analytics and Institutional Research to aid their decision.

Programs are expected to utilize department/program funds to cover the full fellowship amount during the years not covered by College GRA funding. In cases where the gap between the program's regular GTA/GRA salaries and Fellowship stipend levels is significant, the College will accept requests for additional support to help bridge the gap between standard GTA/GRA salaries. The application form includes a field to make such requests. ***The request must be included in the application to be considered by the College Budget Office.***

Programs must submit their application using the online form on the [COGA website](#). The form will be closed to new submissions promptly at 12:00 Noon on Friday, September 25, 2020. **Late submissions will not be accepted.** No extraneous materials will be considered.

AWARD NOTIFICATION AND ACCEPTANCE

Programs will be notified by mid-October. Successful programs must accept the award within the timeframe indicated in the award letter. Successful applications may be shared with other departments and programs to provide examples for future applicants.

Prior to application, programs must review the [General Terms of Award](#) document for more information on program and student expectations.

QUESTIONS

Questions regarding the application process may be addressed to Rachel Schwien at rschwien@ku.edu. All other questions should be addressed to Kristine Latta at klatta@ku.edu.