

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Graduate Recruitment and Retention Fund**

Call for Applications

Deadline: Noon (12 p.m.), Monday, April 6, 2020

Overview

The College's Graduate Recruitment and Retention Fund (GRRF) is a new funding opportunity created using dollars from the former KU Tuition Grant Program (KUTG). A total of \$138,000 has been allocated to the College to support scholarships directed at recruiting and retaining graduate students.

Graduate programs may submit an application for a unit-level award that can then be used to provide individual scholarships to students of the graduate program's choosing. At least 11 unit-level awards will be made.

Master's programs may request up to \$15,000. A total of \$90,000 of funding will be allocated to master's programs to provide scholarships targeting the recruitment and retention of students pursuing a terminal or professional master's degree. Preference will be given to programs with a clearly defined stand-alone master's curriculum, and for whom other funding sources (e.g., GTA and GRA appointments) are limited. This allocation reflects historical uses of the KUTG funds in the College.

Doctoral programs may request up to \$10,000. A total of \$48,000 of funding will be allocated to doctoral programs to provide scholarships targeting the recruitment and retention of students pursuing a doctoral degree. Preference will be given to programs that propose a clear strategy for using these scholarship funds to support specific doctoral retention or recruitment goals.

Departments that have both a terminal master's program and a doctoral program must choose one category of award for which to apply. Programs may receive less than the full amount requested.

Student Eligibility

Unit-level awards must be allocated to selected students as individual scholarships that will be applied directly to the student's account and may be used for any purpose. The maximum scholarship amount per student is \$5,000. Departments may choose to award smaller scholarships, but in no case should the scholarship amount be less than \$1000.

Eligible students:

- Prospective graduate students who have applied and been offered regular admission into a master's or doctoral program for Fall 2020 or Spring 2021
- Continuing master's or doctoral students in good academic standing.

- Enrolled in accordance with University and departmental requirements for the semester in which they are to receive the award.

Ineligible students:

- Students pursuing a graduate certificate only
- Non-degree seeking graduate students.

Please note that, unlike the former KUTG, graduate students with other funding sources ARE eligible, and students are NOT required to complete the FAFSA.

Application Process

Applications must be submitted using the online application form on the <COGA website (link to GRRF award page)>. Departments must choose either a master's or doctoral award, indicate the total amount requested, the approximate number of scholarships they intend to provide, and briefly describe (2000-character limit) how these awards will support recruitment and retention priorities for their master's or doctoral program.

While scholarships are applied to student accounts and may technically be used by the student for any purpose, programs should describe how they will target these funds, e.g., to help cover tuition expenses for unfunded students, to support conference or research travel, or to pay for specialized training. Departments could also choose to designate some or all of these funds to provide general financial support to promising students who are at high risk for attrition due to financial difficulties (e.g., due to medical or child care costs).

Award Decisions

Award decisions will be based primarily upon the program application, but additional program data may be consulted. The College will make every effort to notify departments of award decisions by April 10 so that programs electing to award to prospective students may notify these students before the April 15 national deadline.

Scholarships may be allocated for Fall 2020, Spring 2021, and/or Summer 2021. All funding must be allocated to individual students no later than June 1 for Fall 2020 scholarships, November 1 for Spring 2021 scholarships, and April 1, 2021 for Summer 2021 scholarships. Failure to allocate all funds by the final April 1, 2021 date will lead to forfeiture of any remaining funds and ineligibility for the next cycle of awards.

Programs awarded funding will receive detailed instructions on how to allocate the student scholarships.

Questions?

Please contact coga@ku.edu.