

ENHANCING GRADUATE PROGRAM MERIT
“Recruit and Matriculate the Best”

Merit Fellowship FY21
NOMINATING FORM – Due 12 noon January 13, 2020

Merit Fellowship: Fellowship for year 1 at the department base rate + 20%, plus funds for tuition, university and college fees and graduate student health plan

Department Match: Department supplies assistantship funding, at the same rate, for 4 additional years for Ph.D. students admitted directly into Ph.D. (96-hour program), 3 additional years for Ph.D. students admitted with Master’s degree (64-hour program), and one additional year for Master’s students.

Nominee’s Name: _____ UIN _____

Must be: US Citizen: _____ or Permanent Resident: _____

Degree Sought: _____ Major: _____ Department _____

Local Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Summary of Applicant’s Academic Background:

Bachelor’s degree: University: _____ GPA: _____

Master’s degree: University: _____ GPA: _____

Departmental Information:

Nominating Department: _____

Faculty Advisor (if known): _____

_____ Does the department or faculty agree to supply assistantship funding in subsequent years as described above?

Head or _____ Email _____

Associate Head: (Signature, date)

Faculty Advisor: _____ Email _____

(Signature if known, date)

Nomination Packet: Submit one PDF that contains the complete:

1. Nominating Cover Form: Complete above Form
2. Nominating Statement: From the Department or Faculty Advisor
3. Rubric: Nominator highlights supporting information in Scoring Rubric
4. Student statement: Attach statement of purpose/career objectives from student’s graduate application or CV.

Submission Deadline: Initial deadline 12 noon, January 13th, 2020, then until funds are depleted.



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Nominating Statement from Department or Faculty Advisor

Briefly, give evaluative comments as to why this individual is one of your top graduate applicants. Include how the applicant will make a unique contribution to your department and the college. **DO NOT** exceed this page. **DO NOT** list details/metrics; that info is listed on the Scoring Rubric.

On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 best, 1 lowest), score = _____



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
College of Agriculture
& Life Sciences

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Student’s Statement of Purpose or Career Objectives

Cut-and-paste from student’s graduate application, letter of application or CV

On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 best, 1 lowest), score = _____

*Email PDF of completed & signed application to:
aglsgradinfo@tamu.edu and jnorgaard@tamu.edu*

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Scoring Rubric – Highlight Supporting Information

Nominations will be evaluated with a scoring rubric using the areas and weights below. In addition, GPA will constitute a 20% weight, and will be calculated from the data supplied on the cover sheet. From the nominee’s graduate application, statement of purpose and letters of recommendation, briefly highlight the nominee’s attributes in each category. Scoring: 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest and 1 being the lowest.

Academics (25%)

On a scale of 1 to 10, score = _____

Based on University or program attended, clarity of career objectives, Ph.D. candidate or commitment to pursue a Ph.D., class rank, academic awards and honors, etc. This is your impression of the overall academic training and potential of the student.

High Impact Experiential Learning (25%)

On a scale of 1 to 10, score = _____

Based on research experience (REU, honors research, graduate research, independent study, etc.) study abroad, internships, special projects, etc. To score a 10, the student **must have an independent research** experience that resulted in some type of presentation, e.g. posters, abstracts, publications, etc.– please list.

Demonstrated Leadership, Contribution to College Diversity, intangibles that formulate your strong support, etc. (15%)

On a scale of 1 to 10, score = _____

Based on leadership experience, involvement in societies/organizations, within and beyond department/university (e.g. clubs, scientific societies, officer position), contribution to diversity in the college, life intangibles, etc.

Strength of letters of recommendation (15%)

On a scale of 1 to 10, score = _____

Indicate overall strength of the external letters of recommendation. If possible, indicate overall quantitative (e.g. Top 1%, top quartile, etc.) or qualitative ranking (e.g. best, above average, etc.). Examples,

10 = top 1%, one of my best students

9 = top 5%, excellent student

8 = top 10%, very good student

7 = top 15-25%, good student, etc.