



CRITERIA

Excellence Fellowship FY22

The College will award Excellence Fellowships matched with departmental assistantships. The goal is to recruit and matriculate top quality Ph.D. graduate students or M.S. (thesis option) graduate students with a career objective to pursue a Ph.D., especially students who add diversity to our graduate program. Master's students currently enrolled at Texas A&M University who have applied to a Ph. D. program for Fall 2021 and have not received a Merit or Excellence Fellowship previously are eligible to be nominated for an Excellence Fellowship.

College Excellence Fellowship

- 1/2 match @ Dept base + 10%; tuition + fees, and insurance, if needed, 1st year

Departmental Assistantship

- 1/2 match @ Dept base + 10%, 1st year

Selection and Criteria

Awards will be made on a competitive basis using an evaluation rubric that considers:

- **Grades** (weight 20%)
 - **Academics** (weight 30%): Based on University or program nominee attended, clarity of career objectives, statement of purpose, commitment to pursue a Ph.D., class rank, academic awards and honors, etc. This reflects your impression of the overall academic training and potential of the student.
 - **High Impact Experiential Learning** (weight 25%): Based on research experiences (REU, honors research, graduate research, independent study, etc.), study abroad, internships, special projects, etc. Emphasis is on independent research experiences that resulted in presentations, posters, abstracts, publications, etc.
 - **Demonstrated Leadership, Contribution to College Diversity, other attributes that formulate your strong support** (weight 15%): Based on leadership experiences, involvement in societies, organizations, department/university (e.g., clubs, scientific societies, officer positions), contribution to diversity in the college, other attributes.
 - **Strength of letters of recommendation** (weight 10%): Based on strength of letters of recommendation. Indicate overall quantitative (e.g., top 1%, top quartile, etc.) or qualitative ranking (e.g., best, above average, etc.).
- Must be a first-time M.S. thesis option or Ph.D. graduate student for Fall 2021 admissions.
 - Preference will be given to Ph.D. nominees and Master of Science (thesis option) nominees who have declared a career objective to pursue a Ph.D.
 - The student will be asked to accept the Fellowship within 2 weeks of receiving the offer. However, time extensions will be granted until April 15th, if requested.

Deadlines

- **Applications (first-round) are due on February 1, 2021.**
- Beginning on February 15th, new Excellence Fellowship applications will be screened weekly.
- Merit Fellowship nominees who were not selected for a Merit Fellowship will automatically be considered for an Excellence Fellowship unless you tell us otherwise.
- Excellence Fellowship applications will be considered until funds are exhausted.

Nomination Packet should include:

1. Completed Nominating Cover Form
2. Completed one-page nominating statement from the Department or Faculty Advisor
3. Completed Scoring Rubric; the same person in the department, preferably the Associate Head or Director of Graduate Studies, should score each rubric submitted by your department.