



Criteria

G. Rollie White Trust College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Endowed Graduate Fellowship for the Borlaug Scholars Program – Doctoral students

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will award the G. Rollie White Trust College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Endowed Graduate Fellowship for the Borlaug Scholars Program to provide financial support for the training of exceptional doctoral students who intend to pursue a career in an agricultural and/or life science field. The fellowship award is \$10,000 per year. Fellows will be selected by a committee of college faculty appointed by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. All criteria must be met in order for a nominee's application to be considered. Fellows will be eligible to receive fellowship funding for up to four years if in good academic standing with an annual letter of support provided by the department or the faculty advisor.

Additional Support

College

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will support the Fellow's resident tuition plus university and college fees (not including Distance Education Differential Tuition or program fees) for years 1-2 if the student remains in good academic standing with an annual letter of support provided by the department or the faculty advisor.

Departmental Assistantship

50% FTE stipend for PhD student at department base rate and insurance, if needed, years 1-4; resident tuition plus university and college fees, years 3-4, if the student remains in good academic standing.

Selection and Criteria

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

- **Grades** (weight 20%)
- **Statement of Purpose from the Nominee** (weight 20%): The statement of purpose must indicate the nominee's intended career. The student should address how s/he has prepared for this career path during previous educational and extracurricular activities and how their chosen doctoral program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will support their chosen career.
- **Letter of Nomination** (weight 60%): The letter of nomination from the nominating department or faculty advisor should describe the overall academic training and potential of the nominee highlighting comments from recommendation letters where appropriate. The nominating letter should address:
 - A. the nominee's commitment to pursue a career in an agricultural and/or life science field, the pertinence and quality of the nominee's previous education, academic awards and honors, the clarity of the nominee's career objectives and purpose (weight 20%).
 - B. the nominee's high-impact learning experiences, such as participation in research (REU programs, honors research, graduate research, independent study, etc.), study abroad, internships, special projects, etc. Details of independent experiences that resulted in presentations, posters, abstracts, publications, etc., should be emphasized (weight 20%).
 - C. the nominee's leadership experiences (officer positions), involvement in clubs, scientific societies, other organizations (department, university, local, national, international), contribution to diversity, and any other attributes that inform your strong support for the nominee (weight 20%).
- **CV or resume**: Upload the nominee's up-to-date CV or resume.

Must be a first-time PhD graduate student admitted for Fall 2022.

While receiving fellowship support, the awardee must be enrolled as a full-time graduate student in a graduate program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

While receiving fellowship support, the awardee must reside in Texas, either in the Bryan/College Station area or near the AgriLife facility where the committee chair has his/her faculty position.

Awardees will be expected to attend a reception to meet the donors who support this Fellowship.

U.S. and Non-U.S. citizens may be nominated.



The rubric the reviewers will use is on the next page. Please make sure the statement of purpose and letter of nomination addresses the attributes to be considered by the reviewers.

Deadlines

- **The applications will be accepted through the AGLS InfoReady Portal until July 6, 2022.**

Nomination link in AGLS InfoReady Portal: <https://tamu-agls.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1862580>



**G. Rollie White Trust College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Endowed Graduate Fellowship for
the Borlaug Scholars Program - Reviewers' Rubric**

(to be completed by the selection committee)

The **Statement of Purpose from the Nominee** must indicate the nominee's intended career. The student should address how s/he has prepared for this career path with previous educational and extracurricular activities and how a doctoral program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will support their chosen career.

Score: _____ out of 20 points

1-4	4-8	9-12	13-16	17-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No reference to a career in life science or agriculture Reasons for pursuing a PhD not discussed No alignment between previous activities and graduate program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career objectives described; may not require a graduate degree No reference to a career in agriculture/life science Possible alignment between previous activities and graduate program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career objectives and reasons for pursuing a PhD stated but vague Reference to a career in agriculture or life science Possible alignment between previous activities and graduate program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career in agriculture or life science and rationale for pursuing PhD discussed Good alignment between previous activities and graduate program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear career objectives in agriculture or life sciences that align well with the graduate program Strong alignment between previous activities and graduate program

The **Letter of Nomination** written by the nominating department or faculty advisor should describe the academic training and potential of the nominee. A strong nominating letter will address the attributes in A, B, and C below, each worth 20 points (suggested scoring provided in the table below each item).

A. the nominee's commitment to pursue a career in an agricultural and/or life science field, the pertinence and quality of the nominee's previous education, academic awards and honors, the clarity of the nominee's career objectives and purpose.

Score: _____ out of 20 points

1-4	4-8	9-12	13-16	17-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deficiency in two or more of these areas: -career objectives -reasons for pursuing a graduate degree -requisite coursework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Career objectives and reasons for pursuing graduate degree stated but vague Bachelor degree in a different area, will need remedial coursework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remedial coursework may or may not be needed Career objectives may not require a graduate degree Academic awards and honors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate coursework for grad program Career objectives that require a graduate degree Academic awards and honors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate coursework for graduate program Clear career objectives that align well with the graduate program Academic awards and honors

B. The nominee's high-impact learning experiences, such as participation in research (REU, honors research, graduate research, independent study, etc.), study abroad, internships, special projects, etc. Details of independent experiences that resulted in presentations, posters, abstracts, publications, etc., should be emphasized.

Score: _____ out of 20 points

1-4	4-8	9-12	13-16	17-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lacks high-impact experiences; No publications or presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has had a high-impact experience but it was not relevant to graduate program No publications or presentations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research experience but not independent or REU Internship, study abroad, etc. Lacks presentations or publications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent research project Oral presentation or poster at local/regional meeting May have a publication, may or may not be peer-reviewed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent research (MS, REU, Honors, etc.) Presentations, oral or poster, at national/intl. conference, high-quality peer-reviewed publication(s)



C. The nominee’s leadership experiences (officer positions), involvement in clubs, scientific societies, other organizations (department, university, local, national, international), contribution to diversity, and any other attributes that inform your strong support for the nominee.

Score: _____ out of 20 points

1-4	4-8	9-12	13-16	17-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No involvement in clubs, societies, organizations, etc. • Does not bring diversity to program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimal involvement in clubs, societies, organizations; may be in clubs that are not related to academics • May bring diversity to program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member only (not an officer) of multiple clubs, organizations, societies, etc. • May bring diversity to program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member of multiple clubs, organizations, societies, etc. • Led one or two organizational efforts • Contributes to diversity of college and program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer, leader, organizer of clubs, societies, organizations, etc. • Led more than two organizational efforts • Contributes to diversity of college and program