



Willie Mae Harris Fellowships
Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

The Willie Mae Harris Fellowship was established by Mr. John Richard Harris to support graduate students in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The fellowship is \$12,000 for the academic year. The graduate student must be an outstanding MS (thesis option) or PhD graduate student who has served as a Teaching Assistant for at least two semesters.

Purpose: To reward an outstanding GAT or GAR who is a Teaching Assistant and relieve them of a portion of their teaching load towards the end of their graduate studies so they can focus on their thesis or dissertation research.

Assistantship Match: It is expected that the department will continue the student on an assistantship but at a reduced load compared to the student’s normal teaching load. The department determines how the fellowship is mixed and matched with assistantship funding over the course of the year. The student must be supported for the full year. Recipients are required to provide an updated CV and a brief summary of accomplishments at the end of the Willie Mae Harris Fellowship.

Eligibility: (Similar to U.S. Senator Phil Gramm Fellowship)

- 1) Nominee must be a MS (thesis option) or PhD graduate student in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.
- 2) Nominee must have taught as a ½-time effort Graduate Assistant Teaching (GAT) or Graduate Assistant Research (GAR) for at least two full semesters (Fall, Spring, SSI+SSII or 10-week summer session each constitutes 1 full-semester) at TAMU.
- 3) Lecturers are not eligible.
- 4) The nominee must be a US Citizen or permanent resident.
- 5) The nominee must be equivalent to the instructor of record in the course (s); e.g., they taught the lecture or lab section, prepared and graded exams, and assigned grades or recommended grades to the faculty member with oversight over the lecture/lab sections. GANTs who assisted a faculty member who presented the lecture/lab are not eligible.
- 6) The nominee must have student evaluations.
- 7) The nominee must represent excellence in college-level teaching, have outstanding pedagogical and mentoring skills, have positive student teaching evaluations, have a reputation for ethical behavior in all aspects of scholarly life, and their research potential must be of high quality.
- 8) The nominee must have an approved thesis or dissertation research proposal on file with the Graduate and Professional School at the time of the application.
- 9) One nominee may be submitted per department.
- 10) The nominee may not be a previous recipient of the Willie Mae Harris Fellowship.

Due Date: Nominations are due in the [InfoReady portal](#) by April 21, 2023.