



CRITERIA

Excellence Fellowship FY26

The College will award Excellence Fellowships matched with departmental assistantships. The goal is to recruit and matriculate top-quality Ph.D. or MS (thesis option) graduate students with a career objective of pursuing a Ph.D. Master’s students currently enrolled at Texas A&M who have applied to a Ph.D. program for Fall 2025 admissions 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 25%): Based on the university or program the 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 student’s overall academic training and potential.
- **High Impact Experiential Learning** (weight 20%): 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, Unique Contribution to College, and other attributes that formulate your strong support** (weight 20%): Based on leadership experiences, involvement in societies, organizations, in department/at university (e.g., clubs, scientific societies, officer positions), unique contributions to the college, other attributes.
- **Strength of letters of recommendation** (weight 15%): Based on strength of letters of recommendation. Indicate overall quantitative (e.g., top 1%, top quartile) or qualitative ranking (e.g., best, above average).

Eligibility

- Must be a first-time MS thesis option or PhD graduate student admitted for Fall 2025.
- Preference will be given to PhD or Master of Science (thesis option) students who have declared a career objective to pursue a PhD.
- Domestic and international students are eligible.

Deadlines

- **Applications will be accepted beginning December 19, 2024, in the AGLS InfoReady Portal.**
- After February 21st, applications will be screened weekly.
- Merit Fellowship applicants not selected for a Merit Fellowship will be considered for an Excellence Fellowship.
- Applications will be accepted until funds are exhausted.
- The student has until April 15 to accept/decline but will be asked to respond within 2 weeks if possible.

Nomination link in AGLS InfoReady Portal:

<https://tamu-agls.infoready4.com/#freeformCompetitionDetail/1959280>