Endowed Graduate Fellowships & Access and Diversity Fellowships

2022-2023

Nomination for the 2022–2023 Endowed Graduate School Fellowships and Access and Diversity Fellowships will open in January 2022. As in recent years, students will not apply for fellowships, but will be nominated by the department. Applicants may be aware of available fellowships, and may contact the department to be considered, but departments will be responsible for gathering and submitting application materials.

This document provides background information, award details, eligibility and application requirements for each of the fellowships being offered for the 2022–2023 fellowship cycle. Departments are encouraged to begin evaluating students in order to determine who to nominate.

Each department can nominate only one student per fellowship, and no student can be nominated for more than one of the following fellowships.

This document includes timelines for Endowed Graduate and Access and Diversity Fellowship submission and evaluation. We provide an aggressive timeline in order to optimize the chances of recruiting the best students for these fellowships. A cross-disciplinary faculty review board will evaluate these applications based on the submitted material, as described below.

The Endowed Graduate and Access and Diversity Fellowships are divided into two categories: new students and returning students. Each of these categories has a different timeline for nomination and evaluation.

1 Information about graduate fellowships distributed through colleges can be obtained by contacting college deans.
Fellowships for New Students

The fellowships on the following pages are for new students. These are students who are first-time enrollees in a graduate degree program in fall 2022. The relevant fellowships are:

- Isobel Griscom Graduate Fellowship
- Seaton Graduate Fellowship
- Herman E. Spivey Humanities Graduate Fellowships
- J. Wallace & Katie Dean Graduate Fellowships
- Lori Mayer Women’s Graduate Fellowship
- Rowland Family Scholarship
- Access and Diversity Graduate Fellowship

The process of submission of materials to the Graduate School for evaluation has been distributed to departments and Slate users.

Timeline

The timeline for fellowships for new students is the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 10</td>
<td>Application will be open to upload nomination materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>Deadline for departments to nominate students and submit all materials to the Graduate School.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 14-28</td>
<td>Deadline for fellowship nominees to be admitted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 7-11</td>
<td>Departments and awardees are notified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>Final deadline for student responses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The DGS Sharepoint site will provide a running updated list of awardees, but the website will only be updated in May, after all awardees are confirmed.
Isobel Griscom Graduate School Fellowship

Isobel Griscom established this endowment through a gift made in 1971, and the fellowship is designed to promote opportunities for graduate students who demonstrate successful academic and professional performance. Griscom was born in St. Elmo, Tennessee, and was a revered and respected Associate Professor of English, initially with Chattanooga University, which later became part of the University of Tennessee System. A tireless advocate of women’s rights, Griscom was active in the American Association of University Women and the League of Women Voters.

Award

This award will provide a total of $2,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $1,000 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

The program is open to graduate nominees who will be first-time enrollees in a graduate program in fall 2022 and who demonstrate successful academic and professional performance. Nominees must be admitted (or admitted conditionally) to a degree program by February 8, 2022. This will be confirmed by the Graduate School. Recipients of this award must also be enrolled as a full-time student (see appendix B) for both fall 2022 and spring 2023.

Application Requirements

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by February 8, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s academic readiness and potential for success in the graduate program.
Seaton Graduate School Fellowship

The Seaton endowment honors the memory of Bruce Painter Seaton and Eva Woody Seaton, who were married in Knoxville on October 14, 1922, and were lifetime residents here. Mr. Seaton served in the Knoxville Fire Department for 32 years, retiring in 1967 as assistant chief. He passed away in 1975, and Mrs. Seaton died August 10, 1992. Their daughter, Dr. Jennie D. Seaton, and other family members, including grandchildren and great-grandchildren, established this fellowship, designed to promote opportunities for graduate students who demonstrate successful academic and professional performance.

Award

This award will provide a total of $5,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $2,500 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

The program is open to graduate nominees who will be first-time enrollees in a graduate program in fall 2022 and who demonstrate successful academic and professional performance. Nominees must be admitted (or admitted conditionally) to a degree program by the Office of Graduate Admissions by February 8, 2022. This will be confirmed by the Graduate School. Recipients of this award must also be enrolled as a full-time student (see appendix B) for both fall 2022 and spring 2023. Nominees must also be on at least a 25% graduate assistantship.

Application Requirements

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by February 8, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s academic readiness and potential for success in the graduate program.
Herman E. Spivey Humanities Graduate Fellowships

Established in 1990 with an endowment, the Herman E. Spivey Humanities Graduate Fellowship Program honors the former Vice President of Academic Affairs who served from 1960 to 1968. Spivey fostered academic excellence and diversity at UT. These awards will be offered to selected nominees in arts and humanities programs who have excelled in undergraduate work and shown professional potential.

**Award**

This award will provide a total of $5,000 for the 2022–2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $2,500 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This fellowship is renewable for a total of three years, upon the endorsement of the department and approval of the Graduate School.

**Eligibility Criteria**

The program is open to graduate students who will be first-time enrollees in a graduate program in fall 2022 in a department in the arts or humanities (including Art, English, Modern Foreign Languages and Literatures, History, Music, Philosophy, and Theatre). Nominees must be admitted (or admitted conditionally) to a degree program by the Office of Graduate Admissions by February 8, 2022. This will be confirmed by the Graduate School. U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and international nominees are eligible. Full-time registration is required for fall 2022 and spring 2023 (see appendix B), and the nominee must be the recipient of an assistantship of at least 25% FTE.

**Application Requirements**

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by February 8, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s academic readiness and potential for success in the graduate program.
J. Wallace & Katie Dean Graduate Fellowships

The J. Wallace and Katie Dean Graduate Fellowship Program was established in 2005 through an endowment provided by the Dean Trust. The Deans were longtime friends of the University of Tennessee and active community leaders in Knoxville. These awards will be offered to selected nominees who have excelled in their undergraduate work and who show promise for outstanding graduate work in excellent and demanding programs at UT. The Deans were particularly interested in using this fellowship to recruit “extraordinary students who have undergraduate degrees from top private and public universities.”

Award

This award will provide a total of $10,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $5,000 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

The program is open to graduate students who will be first-time enrollees in a graduate program in fall 2022 at UT. Nominees must be admitted (or admitted conditionally) to a degree program by the Office of Graduate Admissions by February 8, 2022. This will be confirmed by the Graduate School. U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and international nominees are eligible. Full-time registration is required for fall 2022 and spring 2023 (see appendix B), and the nominee must be the recipient of an assistantship of at least 25% FTE.

Although this fellowship is open to nominees from all colleges and programs, special consideration will be given to nominees from programs in the areas of physical and biological sciences.

Application Requirements

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by February 8, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s academic background, accomplishments, and potential for success in the graduate program.
Lori Mayer Women’s Graduate Fellowship
The Lori Mayer Re-Entry Women’s Graduate Fellowship honors the memory of Lori Irene Mayer, who was a 1978 accounting graduate of UT. At the time of her death in October 1993, Ms. Mayer was controller at Whittle Communications, Inc. The fund for this fellowship more than doubled in size when a gift was received from her estate. The fellowship was designed to provide personal encouragement and financial support for returning adult women students.

Award
This award will provide a total of $3,000 for the 2022–2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $1,500 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria
Women are eligible for this fellowship. Applicants must be either (1) first-time enrollees in a UT graduate or professional degree program in fall 2022 who have not been enrolled in a degree seeking program for the last five years, or (2) a newly returning graduate or professional student who has not been enrolled for at least 5 years. Applicants must be admitted to a degree program by the Office of Graduate Admissions by February 8, 2022. This will be confirmed by the Graduate School. Applicants should be individuals who demonstrate significant potential to contribute to the Graduate School’s educational mission and its diversity-related goals. Recipients of this award must also be enrolled as a full-time student (see appendix B) for both fall 2022 and spring 2023.

Application Requirements
To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by February 8, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s potential for success in the graduate program.
Rowland Family Scholarship

The Rowland Family Scholarship was established from a generous gift by Lafairish G. Rowland, a long-time resident of Knoxville, TN. This award is limited to students in math, science and engineering. Students with limited resources are given priority consideration.

Award

This award will provide a total of $5,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $2,500 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

The award is open to graduate student nominees in math, science and engineering who will be first-time enrollees in a graduate program in fall 2022 and who demonstrate successful academic and professional performance. Nominees must be admitted (or admitted conditionally) to a degree program by February 8, 2022. This will be confirmed by the Graduate School. Recipients of this award must be enrolled as a full-time student (see appendix B) for both fall 2022 and spring 2023.

Application Requirements

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by February 8, 2022. The letter should address the nominee’s academic readiness and potential for success in the graduate program. If the student has limited resources to support himself/herself, that should be noted in the letter of endorsement.
Access and Diversity Graduate Fellowship

The Graduate School seeks to recruit, enroll, and retain qualified students who will benefit from educational and social interactions with peers who come from different backgrounds and who have different life experiences, perspectives, and goals. The Graduate School also seeks to prepare its students with an array of educational experiences for dealing effectively in an increasingly diverse and global workforce. This graduate fellowship program is designed to achieve these goals. The wide-ranging attributes that will contribute to the educational mission of the Graduate School include but are not limited to ethnic and cultural backgrounds or life experiences, career goals, social or economic disadvantage, disability status, age, race, and sex.

Award

This award will provide a total of $15,000 for the 2022–2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $7,500 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). Departments are encouraged to provide the nominee with a graduate assistantship including a tuition waiver. In the event that the department does not offer an assistantship, the Graduate School will provide tuition and health insurance. This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

The fellowship is open to first-time enrollees who have been admitted to a graduate degree program at UT for fall 2022 and who demonstrate significant potential to contribute to the Graduate School’s educational mission and its diversity-related goals. Competition is open to U.S. citizens, permanent residents, and international applicants. Employees are not eligible. Applicants must be admitted to a degree program by the Office of Graduate Admissions by February 8, 2022. Admission will be confirmed by the Graduate School. Recipients of this award must also be enrolled as full-time students (see appendix B) for both fall 2022 and spring 2023 semesters.

Application Requirements

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by February 8, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s potential for success in the graduate program and how they contribute to the diversity of the department.
Fellowships for Returning Students

The fellowships on the following pages are for returning students. These are students who are currently enrolled in a graduate degree program and will be continuing their degree program in the 2022–2023 academic year. The relevant fellowships are:

- Shipley-Swann Graduate Fellowship
- Mary Phipps Shepherd Graduate Fellowship
- Oscar Roy Ashley Graduate Fellowship
- Yates Dissertation Fellowships
- Dawn and Lawrence Taylor Dissertation Fellowship

The process of submission of materials to the Graduate School for evaluation has been distributed to departments and Slate users.

Timeline

The timeline for fellowships for returning students is the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 10</td>
<td>Application will be open to upload nomination materials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td>Deadline for departments to nominate students and submit all materials to the Graduate School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 23–April 6</td>
<td>Review of applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 14</td>
<td>Departments and awardees are notified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Final deadline for student responses and the website is updated.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The DGS Sharepoint site will provide a running updated list of awardees, but the website will only be updated in May, after all awardees are confirmed.
Shipley-Swann Graduate School Fellowship

R. Bruce Shipley and Sara Swann Shipley of Johnson City, Tennessee established five charitable remainder trusts with the University of Tennessee between 1989 and 1999. When Mr. Shipley passed away in 2002, Mrs. Shipley terminated the trust and activated the Shipley-Swann Endowment. This fellowship is to award returning students who demonstrate academic excellence.

Award
This award will provide a total of $5,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $2,500 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship year may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria
The program is open to students who are currently enrolled in a graduate degree program and will be continuing their degree program in the 2022-2023 academic year. Nominees must demonstrate academic success and professional promise. Recipients of this award must also be enrolled as a full-time student (see Appendix B) for both fall 2022 and spring 2023.

Application Requirements
To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by March 21, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s academic success and professional promise.
Mary Phipps Shepherd Graduate School Fellowship

Mary Phipps Shepherd, a native of East Tennessee, graduated from the College of Education in 1932. While she was a student at UT, she served on the editorial staffs of the Volunteer, the Orange and White, and the Mugwump. She was a member of the Women Student Activities Council, the Panhellenic Council and Delta Delta Delta Sorority. Because of her great love for her alma mater, the University of Tennessee, she established this fellowship to help deserving students further their education.

Award

This award will provide a total of $1,000 for the 2022-2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $500 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship year may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

The program is open to students who are currently enrolled in a graduate program and will be continuing in their degree program in the 2022-2023 academic year. Nominees must demonstrate academic success and professional promise. Recipients of this award must also be enrolled as a full-time student (see appendix B) for both fall 2022 and spring 2023.

Application Requirements

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by March 21, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s academic success and professional promise.
Oscar Roy Ashley Graduate School Fellowship

Oscar Roy Ashley was a 1927 graduate of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, receiving a BA in English from the College of Liberal Arts (now known as the College of Arts and Sciences). After his death in 2001, his will stipulated the use of funds to create a campus-wide fellowship fund for UT. This fellowship is for deserving and talented returning students who have demonstrated excellence in academic performance.

Award

This award will provide a total of $4,000 for the 2022–2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $2,000 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship year may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

The program is open to students who are currently enrolled in a graduate program and will be continuing in their degree program in the 2022–2023 academic year. Nominees must demonstrate academic success and professional promise. Recipients of this award must also be enrolled as a full-time student (see appendix B) for both fall 2022 and spring 2023.

Application Requirements

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the Director of Graduate Studies for the candidate’s program by March 21, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s academic success and professional promise.
Yates Dissertation Fellowships

The Yates Graduate Fellowship Endowment is a legacy of the generosity of the estate of Arthur E. Yates (1915–1977), former president of Yates Bleachery Company and a dedicated friend of the University of Tennessee. The Yates Graduate Fellowship Endowment was established in June 2000 to encourage, recognize, and support outstanding graduate students. Endowment from the Yates estate provides awards to doctoral students completing their dissertations.

Award

This award will provide a total of $10,000 for the 2022–2023 academic year. This amount will be paid in two equal awards of $5,000 each; one at the beginning of the fall semester, and the other when the spring semester begins (see appendix A). This is a non-renewable fellowship and no portion of the fellowship year may be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

A candidate must be a UT graduate student in good standing who will have completed admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree and reached dissertation stage or admitted to candidacy by fall 2022. Recipients of this award must also be enrolled in dissertation hours for both fall 2022 and spring 2023 semesters. Recipients of this award may not be full-time employees of the University of Tennessee.

Application Requirements

To nominate a candidate, the department must submit a letter of endorsement from the nominee’s major professor by March 21, 2022. This letter should address the nominee’s potential for success in completing their dissertation during the 2022–2023 academic year and the way in which this award will assist in completing the dissertation during the academic year. This letter should also address the student’s academic success and professional promise.
Dawn and Lawrence Taylor Dissertation Awards

The Dawn and Lawrence Taylor Dissertation Awards Endowment was established to support outstanding PhD students during the dissertation writing phase. Dr. Dawn Taylor established this endowment to serve as a reminder of the many contributions by her late husband, Dr. Lawrence A. Taylor. His scientific discoveries helped develop a greater understanding of the universe and our planet. His love for teaching and sharing knowledge impacted generations of scholars.

Award

Up to three awards in the College of Arts and Sciences (Division of Natural Sciences) and up to one award in the Tickle College of Engineering, Department of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Biomedical Engineering (in “space sciences”) can be given for 2022-2023. Each award will be a $5,000 fellowship paid in fall 2022 to the student through the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. This is a non-renewable fellowship and may not be deferred.

Eligibility Criteria

A candidate must be a PhD student enrolled in either the College of Arts and Sciences (Division of Natural Sciences) or the Tickle College of Engineering, Department of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Biomedical Engineering (in “space sciences”). A candidate must also be a PhD student who has completed comprehensive exams and been admitted to candidacy. Paperwork for admission to candidacy must be submitted to Graduate School in order for nomination to be accepted. If there are questions about this, contact the Graduate School for verification.

Nominees must have demonstrated excellence in academic and research activity. In order to be considered, the candidate must be enrolled in dissertation credits for fall 2022.
Application Requirements
Each department within the College of Arts and Sciences Division of Natural Sciences may nominate one student, while the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Biomedical Engineering may nominate no more than two students.

The application process for this fellowship is different from any of the others in this document. Use the following procedure for this fellowship.

Nominations should come from the College's Associate Dean of Graduate Affairs and include the following:

- a letter of nomination from the student’s major professor (must include an overview of the student’s dissertation research project and the current status of the student’s progress on the work)
- a copy of the student’s CV;
- an endorsement letter from the department head or director of graduate studies; and
- additional information from the Graduate Associate Dean related to the College’s assessment and ranking of the nominations.

Nominations should be submitted to GradSchoolDean@utk.edu no later than close of business on March 21, 2022.
Appendix A: Financial Aid

Fellowships will be disbursed to the awardee’s MyUTK (myutk.utk.edu) account together with any other financial aid and scholarships that the awardee may be receiving. If there are any unpaid charges at the time of disbursement, the fellowship will be applied towards those outstanding charges. If any excess funds are generated from this award, those monies will be made available approximately one week after the funds are disbursed. Being signed up for direct deposit in a MyUTK account can assist in avoiding any delays. The award may be combined with other financial aid up to UT’s full estimated cost of attendance, which includes standard amounts for tuition, fees, and averages for housing, food, books, and personal costs related to attending college. If the combined financial aid, including the fellowship, exceeds UT’s estimated costs, the amount of any other financial aid may be reduced because of the fellowship. For questions related to financial aid, please contact OneStop (onestop@utk.edu).

Please note that this fellowship will be reported on the awardee’s annual 1098-T form and may have tax implications. For more information, the awardee should consult with a tax preparer or visit www.irs.gov.

Appendix B: Full-Time Status

In order to be considered a full-time student for federal financial aid, a student must be enrolled in 9 credit hours. For the purposes of the Graduate Endowed Fellowships and Access and Diversity Fellowships, a student without an assistantship or with a 25% assistantship must be enrolled in 9 credit hours. A student with a 50% assistantship is considered full-time when enrolled in 6 credit hours.