



## Central Valley Graduate Fellowship AY 2019-20

### Purpose

The UC Merced Central Valley Fellowship is intended for doctoral students who have advanced to candidacy, attended High School in the Central Valley, and whose research will benefit the California Central Valley. The California Central Valley encompasses all or parts of 18 counties: Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Kern, Fresno, Kings, Madera, Merced, Placer, San Joaquin, Sacramento, Shasta, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, Yuba, and Yola. A list of cities that are eligible can be found here: <https://www.counties.org/cities-within-each-county>.

This award is intended to assist Ph.D. students with the completion of their degree. It will provide students with a one semester fellowship, including tuition and fees. It will be expected that the awardee will present their work to the donor by the end of the academic year. The donor may be provided the awardee's application information.

### Eligibility Requirements & Standards

- Must be a Ph.D. student who has advanced to candidacy prior to receipt of the award.
- Must be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or AB540 student.
- Must demonstrate satisfactory progress toward degree, have a minimum 3.0 GPA in their graduate studies at UC Merced, and be enrolled in 12 units during the award period.
- Must have attended High School in the Central Valley.
- Must be conducting dissertation research that will be of benefit to residents of the Central Valley.

### Financial Support

- Recipients will receive a one semester (Fall or Spring) fellowship of up to \$12,500 plus payment of Graduate Fees (Resident Tuition, Student Services Fee and Health Services Fee), excluding Campus Based Fees.

### Student Loan Impact

- Per federal guidelines, all fellowship and tuition support is taken into consideration when determining student loan eligibility. If you will receive federal student loans during the same academic year as this award, please note that this award could, and most likely will, reduce your student loan eligibility.

### Application Procedures

- Each graduate group offering a doctoral degree is eligible to nominate up to two Ph.D. students. **Nominations must be submitted by the Graduate Group Chair to**

[gradfunding@ucmerced.edu](mailto:gradfunding@ucmerced.edu) and must include a preferred term of support (Fall or Spring). Any applicant meeting the criteria above is eligible; applicants do not need to apply.

### **Review Procedures**

- This fellowship will follow a multiple step review process that considers all nominations. Review criteria are consistent with the eligibility requirements above, the academic qualifications of the nominees, and the extent to which their research will benefit the Central Valley.
- Nominations submitted by the Graduate Groups must include a brief narrative of the process and criteria that the graduate group used to choose nominees. For each nominee, the faculty advisor should be listed, along with 3-4 sentences highlighting the nominee's qualifications. Nominations should be submitted to [gradfunding@ucmerced.edu](mailto:gradfunding@ucmerced.edu). Final award decisions will be made by the Graduate Dean.

### **Deadlines**

- Graduate Group Nomination Due by July 29, 2019 by 5pm.