

**Labor & Automation in California Agriculture
(LACA): Equity, Productivity & Resilience**

SUMMER 2024

GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

***** Deadline: March 1, 2024 5PM *****



LACA



The LACA program is pleased to announce this opportunity for UC Merced graduate student researchers (GSRs) working in current or emerging areas of interest to the **LACA multicampus research initiative program**. Fellowships may be used to “top off” existing funds or to cover summer funding entirely.

Topics of interest range include:

- Sustainable/climate smart agriculture (healthy soils, carbon sequestration, water/fertilizer/pest management)
- Rural broadband and electrification (edge computing in ag, agrovoltatics)
- Agricultural technology (in situ and remote sensing, robotics, and automation)
- Big data and artificial intelligence in agri-food systems
- Ag- and hydro-economics
- Enhancing labor conditions in agriculture (technologies, health & safety, policy)
- Future of agri-food work (technology, policy)
- ...and more! (feel free to check if you are unsure—we are interested in new ideas!)

Five to ten fellowships will be awarded, depending on the level of funding requested. To apply, applicants should email the following package in PDF form to LACA Director **Thomas Harmon (tharmon@ucmerced.edu)**:

- Justification in terms of the relevance of your research to LACA (1 page maximum).
- 1-page CV
- Separately, please have your primary advisor email a brief letter (< 1 page) of support that includes the funding request (50% or 100% time).