Think Bigger Than First in Your Class

Think First in Your Field!
A Welcoming, Creative, Collaborative Community

Add yourself to Berkeley’s community of 10,000-plus graduate students from all around the U.S. and over a hundred other countries. Find yourself among an inspiring array of students like — and unlike — yourself: older and younger, on their own or starting families, speaking many languages, from every sort of background and life experience. This diversity is Berkeley’s richness.

What you have in common is passion, commitment, and vision. Join your diverse peers in tackling academic challenges while growing in personal development and professional skills.

Today’s Brightest Minds

Choose Berkeley to pursue graduate studies

We attract the most daring thinkers and doers. Graduate students at Berkeley are passionate, curious, and committed to their areas of study.

Berkeley enrolls more students who receive prestigious national awards that recognize great academic promise than any other public or private institution — and graduates the most doctoral students from underrepresented backgrounds.

Join an influential network of alumni

Berkeley’s graduate students go on to join an impressive array of alumni. Among them are:

- 20 Nobel Prize winners
- 30 recipients of the National Medal of Science
- founders of more than 250 trail-blazing companies.

Berkeley graduate alumni are noted the world over for life-changing discoveries, inventions, policy improvements, and creative innovations.
Distinguished Faculty

Many of the world’s most distinguished faculty call Berkeley home. Quoted almost daily in the national media for their groundbreaking research and thoughtful analysis, our professors are among the most renowned and respected experts in their fields.

7 Nobel laureates
230 American Academy of Arts and Sciences fellows
40 American Philosophical Society
3 Fields Medal in Mathematics recipients
77 Fulbright scholars
32 MacArthur fellows
97 National Academy of Engineering members
139 National Academy of Sciences members
13 National Medal of Science recipients
4 Pulitzer Prize winners
88 Sloan Research Fellows
3 Turing Award recipients
1 U.S. Poet Laureate

Unparalleled Resources & Opportunities

Our students pursue research and professional activities throughout the globe. Opportunities include public-service fieldwork in locations ranging from nearby urban communities to Sub-Saharan Africa to Polynesia; native language recovery programs in California; city planning projects in China; archival research in India and Pakistan; education projects for women and children in Nigeria and Indonesia; and more.

Our 20 campus libraries underpin study and research with 11 million volumes and electronic journals. Berkeley’s public collections are top-ranked in the country. Our laboratories and interdisciplinary centers are among the most ground-breaking anywhere.

The reach of our students’ work extends from library, lab, and field station to community, commerce, and industry. Our connections help Berkeley graduate students transfer their ideas and inventions to the marketplace. For example, the QB3 Garage@Berkeley is a network of modern biotech labs, where forward-thinkers lay foundations for new industries, guided by faculty mentors. Berkeley Skydeck is a technology entrepreneurship center that incubates, accelerates, and expands the pipeline of start-ups.

Every year, dozens of new ventures arise from innovations made by Berkeley graduate students and faculty.

All on one campus

Institutes, research centers, multidisciplinary labs, and museums

Collaboration and innovation spring from more than 100 (ever-growing) clusters. To name just a few:

- Berkeley Energy & Climate Institute
- Berkeley Food Institute
- Berkeley Seismological Institute
- Functional Genomics Laboratory
- Institute of East Asian Studies
- Institute of Personality and Social Research
- Institute for Urban and Regional Development
- Museum of Vertebrate Zoology
- Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology
- Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing
- Space Sciences Laboratory
- Townsend Center for the Humanities
Berkeley’s Graduate Programs

You can choose from more than 100 graduate programs to match what best fits your interests and goals. Customize your degree by choosing among concurrent degree programs, interdisciplinary graduate groups, and/or designated emphases (graduate minors).

Application deadlines change. Please verify dates at grad.berkeley.edu/programs/list.

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**DESIGNATED EMPHASIS**

Ph.D. students may choose to add a Designated Emphasis (like a graduate-level minor) to their major program. A DE is an interdisciplinary area of study constituting a new method of inquiry or an important field of application relevant to two or more existing doctoral degree programs. Currently, 16 DEs are offered in a wide range of areas.
Financing Your Education

Funding Options

Graduate students can draw from a variety of fellowships, grants, academic employment, and other need-based and merit-based aid to pay their tuition, fees, and living expenses.

Multi-year university fellowships
A competitive campus-wide selection process awards prestigious multi-year fellowships to the most promising entering doctoral students. Applicants are nominated by academic programs during the admissions process; no separate application is necessary.

Other sources of support for entering and continuing students
Academic programs may offer incoming master’s and doctoral students funding packages that may include one or more years of fellowships plus teaching and/or research appointments. Federal agencies and national philanthropic foundations also provide many Berkeley graduate students with prestigious fellowships for one or more years.

Continuing students may receive Graduate Division-administered fellowships and grants such as:
- Privately-sponsored fellowships for certain areas of study
- Housing support grants
- Parenting support grants
- Research travel grants
- Conference travel grants
- Summer research grants
- Mentoring grants
- Dissertation writing fellowships

In Humanities and the Social Sciences, the majority of students are supported by fellowships that pay tuition, fees, and stipends. About one in three students in these fields are financially supported by graduate student instructor (GSI) appointments, which also impart professional training. The rest are supported by assisting faculty with research or other academic duties.

In the Sciences and Engineering, more than four in ten students are supported by graduate student researcher (GSR) appointments that fund them to work with faculty on projects that advance their academic goals and professional training. Nearly as many students are supported by fellowships. About one in six students in these fields are supported by graduate student instructor (GSI) appointments, which also impart professional training. The rest are supported by appointments in other academic titles.

Work/Life Balance

Community Life and Professional Development

Life balance is key to life success. To support your day-to-day and long-term well-being, our resources help you balance personal and social interests with the academic and professional demands of your graduate experience. We help you enter into a community of support, guidance, and fun!

Graduate Community Life staff and campus partners provide programs and services to ensure that your needs for housing, health, wellness, recreation, social connection and engagement are being met. Our family-friendly policies are supportive of students with family responsibilities.

After you earn your graduate degree comes what you’ve worked so long and hard for: your post-graduate life. We help you plan ahead for that too!

Graduate Professional Services (GPS) staff and campus partners provide a wide range of resources that empower you to develop the competencies and experiences crucial to success in whatever career path you eventually choose, whether in academia or beyond.

GPS helps you explore a variety of potential careers, formulate professional development goals, build an array of flexible skills as an integral process throughout your graduate studies, and prepare the next steps that will launch you on your way after graduation.

At Berkeley, we help you succeed in every dimension of your life.
Choose Berkeley

Graduate students at Berkeley want to make an impact on the world, and they want to start here.

Berkeley students, scholars, and staff build on this university’s historic reputation for independent thinking, social innovation, and trail-blazing discoveries. Then we go further to redefine what’s possible on a daily basis. We think in new ways about new problems — and together we create better, smarter, stronger solutions. We find, invent, and share world-changing information and practical ways of making change locally, regionally, and globally.

Here at the Graduate Division, we support and grow that thinking at every turn — from a student’s earliest interest in attending Berkeley to the completion of their degree. We cultivate our students’ success through continual communication, supportive training, and millions of dollars in fellowships and other aid.

I encourage you to join our diverse community of today’s best students, surrounded by preeminent faculty and cutting-edge resources, in a stunning location that brims with a contagious entrepreneurial spirit. We look forward to welcoming you!

Fiona M. Doyle
Dean of the Graduate Division
Donald H. McLaughlin Professor of Mineral Engineering

“At Berkeley, passionate students work with brilliant faculty to redefine what’s possible on a daily basis.”

Meet the Graduate Dean
Fiona M. Doyle

A Place Like No Other
Berkeley is a hub of innovation and exploration, building on classical knowledge and in-the-field know-how. All this takes place on a scenic 1,200-acre campus, graced with towering redwoods and expansive oaks, with views of the Golden Gate Bridge. Alumni around the world always leave a bit of their hearts in Berkeley.

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Join the action!

Did you know that, year after year, UC Berkeley ranks at or near the top of every important national and international list of the best universities in the U.S. and the world?

In the latest National Research Council report — a ‘gold standard’ assessment — Berkeley had the highest number of top-ranked doctoral programs in the nation. And that excellence infuses every graduate program in every field.

Berkeley is continually innovating and improving master’s and doctoral programs to keep pace with our changing world — and students from around the country and the globe come here to join the dynamism. There is no more exciting place for your academic studies, professional development, and personal growth than UC Berkeley. Come find yourself here!

grad.berkeley.edu