

Mentored Research Award, 2018 – 2019

UC Berkeley is committed to recognizing and rewarding graduate student's contributions to diversifying the academy during their graduate careers and beyond. The purpose of this fellowship award is to assist diverse doctoral students in acquiring sophisticated research skills by working under faculty mentorship on their own pre-dissertation research. Fellows will receive a \$16,000 stipend plus payment of in-state fees. The deadline for all materials to be submitted is Monday, March 5, 2018. Award notifications will be made in April.

NOTE: The Mentored Research Awards are for doctoral students in academic programs only. Professional programs are not eligible. Preference will be given to nominees who have not received other major fellowships.

To be eligible:

- Student must have U.S. citizenship or permanent residency. The student may be undocumented, but AB540-eligible.
- Student must be making adequate academic progress towards their degree, as certified by their adviser.
- Student must be in an academic doctoral degree program.

Selection will be based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Preference will be given to nominees who have not advanced to candidacy and have not received other major fellowships.
- Applicant is from a group that is historically underrepresented in higher education and/or comes from a non-traditional educational background
- Communication skills and cross-cultural abilities to maximize effective collaboration with a diverse cross-section of the academic community
- Demonstrated significant academic achievement by overcoming barriers such as economic, social, or educational disadvantage
- Educational experiences such as:
 - attendance at a minority serving institution- Historically black colleges & Universities (HBCU); Hispanic serving institutions (HSI) or Tribal College
 - ability to articulate the barriers facing women and minorities in science and engineering fields
 - participation in higher education pipeline programs such as UC Leads, Gates Millennium Scholars, Summer Research Opportunity Program (SROP), McNair Scholars, etc.
- Leadership experience among students from groups that have been historically underrepresented in higher education

Additional criteria to be considered:

- Research interests focusing on underserved populations and understanding issues of racial or gender inequalities
- Academic service advancing equitable access to higher education for women and racial minorities in the fields where they are underrepresented
- Evidence of an intention to use the doctoral degree toward serving marginalized and underrepresented populations

Faculty Mentor Responsibilities:

- Discuss academic issues
- Network on behalf of the fellow
- Write letters of recommendation
- Advise on the fellow's dissertation plans
- Assist the fellow avoid academic obstacles

APPLICATION PROCESS (TWO-STEP process which includes a NOMINATION by the student's DEPARTMENT):

- 1) Inquire with your department regarding its internal competition for attaining a nomination.
- 2) If you are selected by your department as a nominee, submit an application through [Tango](#) by March 5, 2018.

Application must include:

From Student Nominee (to be submitted through [Tango](#))

- Personal Statement which addresses how the nominee's background, including financial need, fits within the criteria
- Statement of Academic Research which describes the student's academic progress to date, the proposed research project, how the research project is critical to the student's academic career, and the ways in which a Mentored Research Award will help the student achieve their goals
- Unofficial graduate transcript(s)

From Department (to be submitted via e-mail to Graduate Division)

- A letter from the Faculty Mentor describing the plans for mentoring the student and past successful experiences in mentoring
- A letter from the Department Chair supporting the nomination and confirming the nominee's eligibility. This letter must also be signed by the department's Equity Adviser.

For more information, contact Gina Farales Blanco by phone at (510) 642-7739 or by email at ginablanca@berkeley.edu.