

**Dean's Diversity Fellowships (DDF)  
The Graduate School  
Wayne State University  
2024-2025**

**Provisions**

In accordance with Wayne State University's strategic plan, The Dean's Diversity Fellowship (DDF) is designed to attract and retain outstanding doctoral students from diverse backgrounds who can engage in scholarly and creative activities that not only advance the mission of the university but also their own career and professional development.

The fellowship covers three academic years during which fellows have no service requirements. The fellowship includes a living allowance of \$27,500, tuition up to ten graduate credits per term (Fall and Winter), as well as subsidized medical, dental insurance and vision care insurance for twelve months per year. Departments are required to provide two additional years of support to Dean's Diversity Fellows at the Graduate Assistant minimum rate (or better).

**Eligibility**

This competitive fellowship program is for students entering their first year of a doctoral program at Wayne State University; it cannot be awarded to continuing doctoral students. The graduate director of the doctoral program to which the nominee has been accepted nominates the student. A department may advance only one nomination per year. Nominations are due by March 11, 2024. Award announcements will be made by March 31. Nominees will be asked to accept or decline by April 15, at which point the fellowship may be reallocated to another candidate by the Graduate School.

Nominations are encouraged for students from backgrounds that are underrepresented in their doctoral programs and their fields. Eligible nominees must be United States citizens, or permanent residents, and not hold a doctoral degree previously earned at Wayne State University.

Fellows must register for a minimum of eight credit hours fall and winter semesters, (or 7.5 if enrolled in dissertation sequence), maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average each semester, and otherwise make satisfactory progress towards the degree. Fellows may not hold graduate assistantships, other fellowships, internships, traineeships, scholarships, or any other employment during the fellowship period.

**Nomination Process**

Departments nominate candidates by submitting a single pdf consisting of the Academic Development and Mentoring Plan (see form) and a nomination letter to Karen Schramm, via e-mail to: gradawards@wayne.edu

Nomination letters must include the following headings:

- Academic credentials of the student (include nominee's undergraduate major and institution), including evidence of persistence and motivation for graduate study and interest in the program;
- Contribution of fellowship to student's academic and professional success

- Inclusive excellence (include the extent to which the selected student will contribute to diverse perspectives in the program and/or the discipline and how diversity and inclusion efforts benefit the program and/or research to be undertaken; how efforts at inclusion will be actively cultivated in the department)
- Commitment to support. Explain the provision for supporting the student in the fourth and fifth years of study at the Graduate Assistant minimum rate.

### **Expectations of Fellows**

#### **Dean's Diversity Fellows must:**

- Maintain a GPA of at least 3.0 and make satisfactory progress in the program of study. If the GPA falls below 3.0 or the Fellow fails to make adequate progress, the Fellow will be placed on a one-semester probation during which they will work with their mentoring committee to identify ways to improve their performance. If the Fellow is successful in meeting the requirements of the Fellowship and the mentoring committee goals, then probation will be lifted; if the student fails to meet these requirements, the student will no longer receive funding from the Fellowship program.
- Meet once per semester with the faculty mentor
- Participate in professional development programming including:
  - Satisfactory completion of GS0900 Responsible Conduct of Research training in the first year of doctoral study;
  - Attend monthly meetings of Graduate School Fellows Learning Community
- File the complete Annual Review/Individualized Development Plan annually.
- Submit an abstract, and if accepted, present at the annual Graduate and Postdoctoral Research Symposium held by the Graduate School (Optional for Fellows in Year 1; Required for Fellows in Years 2-4).
- **Submit a one-page report at the end of each year using the attached form.**

***Fellows who do not abide by these expectations may be ineligible for continued DDF funding.***

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**Academic and Mentoring Development Plan for Nominee**

Name of Nominee \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First)

Proposed Enrollment Date \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Graduate Program</b>	<b>Department</b>	<b>School or College</b>
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- I. List the proposed courses the nominee will take during the first year of the fellowship period.
  
  
  
  
- II. Describe the proposed program and/or scholarly and creative activities the nominee will undertake during the fellowship period.
  
  
  
  
- III. Who is the proposed Faculty Mentor? \_\_\_\_\_
  
  
- IV. Describe how the nominee's research interest fits well with the proposed graduate faculty mentor's research interest.
  
  
  
  
- V. Describe the mentoring plan for the nominee during the fellowship period.

**I confirm that the proposed academic plan is designed to accelerate the nominee's graduate career and that the department will provide responsible mentoring relevant to that plan.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Graduate Director**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**The Dean's Diversity Fellowship packets must be submitted by graduate director as a single pdf to the attention of Karen Schramm, [gradawards@wayne.edu](mailto:gradawards@wayne.edu), no later than March 11, 2024.**

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**Annual Report**

**To be filled out together by the student and their primary faculty mentor. Graduate Program Director should sign and submit to [k.schramm@wayne.edu](mailto:k.schramm@wayne.edu) each year by June 1<sup>st</sup>.**

Name of Fellow \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First)

Name of Primary Faculty member \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last) (First)

\_\_\_\_\_ Department School or College

1. Dates met with Faculty Mentor \_\_\_\_\_  
Fall Winter

2. Date attended GS0900 Responsible Conduct of Research Training \_\_\_\_\_

3. Dates attended Graduate School Fellows Learning Community workshops:

4. Completed Annual Review/Individual Development Plan \_\_\_ Yes or \_\_\_ No

5. Was an Abstract Submitted to the Graduate and Postdoctoral Research Symposium?  
\_\_\_ Yes or \_\_\_ No If yes, did you present \_\_\_ Yes or \_\_\_ No

6. Accomplishments during the past academic year.

**7. Mentoring plan for the next academic year.**

**Comments:**

**Signatures:**

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**Student**

**(Date)**

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**Primary Faculty Mentor**

**(Date)**

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**Graduate Director**

**(Date)**