

# Graduate Equity Fellowship Program For Under-Served Groups

Office of Graduate Studies  
California State University, Chico  
Chico, CA 95929-0875

The primary objective of the Graduate Equity Fellowship Program is to prepare, motivate, encourage and support those graduate students who aspire to obtain a doctorate and pursue an academic career in teaching and research. This program is designed to increase the heterogeneity of students completing graduate degree programs in the CSU and to facilitate their matriculation into doctoral programs. Upon completion of a PhD, it is hoped that former Fellows will apply for faculty positions at campuses of the California State University (CSU)/pursue careers as CSU faculty.

The Graduate Equity Fellowship Program is sponsored by the Chancellor's Office and California State University, Chico. Awards for an academic year total \$5,500. The two part program provides a stipend of \$750 per semester and a salary of \$2,000 per semester for research related activities under the direction of a faculty mentor. A long-term goal of this program is to help broaden and expand the pool of academically talented CSU graduate students committed to careers in university teaching and research. All qualified students are encouraged to apply and will be considered without regard to race, ethnicity, gender, or national origin. To be eligible, applicants must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. You must be economically disadvantaged. Eligibility will be verified by the Financial Aid Office after a review of your *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)*. Therefore, it is essential that you apply for financial aid before you submit your application for this Fellowship.
2. You must have come from an educationally disadvantaged background/experienced restricted access to quality educational opportunities.
3. You must be admitted to the University and a **graduate degree program** (students who are unclassified post baccalaureate students or credential candidates are not eligible). Further, you must have outstanding academic potential as well as the motivation for pursuing the Ph.D. degree and an academic career.
4. You must be classified as a California resident.
5. There must be a probable need for faculty in your academic discipline - i.e., a projected shortfall in the supply of qualified faculty in your field of study.

The program is competitive and supports 10 Fellows each semester by providing funds and the opportunity to work closely with faculty engaged in scholarly work. Each Fellow is assigned a faculty mentor with special expertise and interests matched, as closely as possible, to the student's research interest and career goals. Students either assist the faculty member in an ongoing research project or work collaboratively with their mentor in designing a new project of mutual interest.

It is hoped that the Fellowship enable students to minimize their debt burden, complete their program more quickly that would otherwise be possible, and commence doctoral studies. If you are selected as a Fellow, you will be expected to demonstrate satisfactory progress toward the completion of your master's degree. Normally this will mean the completion of **at least** six units of graduate work each semester in addition to your work as a research Fellow. Students are eligible to receive the Fellowship for a total of four semesters. Reappointment is contingent upon satisfactory performance in research work with the faculty mentor, as well as continuing to meet all eligibility criteria.

**Deadline for Applications:**      **November 1 for Spring**  
   **April 1 for Fall**

(Note: If you are employed on campus, please ask for information on restrictions regarding total hours of employment.)

For more information, please contact Matthew Thomas (mothomas@csuchico.edu or 898-5738) or Phyllis Yamashita (pyamashita@csuchico.edu or 898-5409).

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