General Award Nomination Guidelines

The Executive Committee of the Graduate Board will select the recipients for all assistantships, fellowships, and scholarships. Awards will be based upon departmental recommendations and academic performance, including previous GPA(s) and entrance test scores; the MJEDF and JWDRF awards have additional criteria. All pertinent information must be included with each nomination.

1. Nominations should be submitted through the appropriate electronic nomination form by the graduate coordinator and must include:
   a. An electronic nomination form (https://umaine.edu/graduate/facultystaff-resources/financial-awards-nominations/).
   b. A letter of support (see specific award documentation for further instructions). Letters of support must describe the reasons for nominating the student, should not exceed 450 words (600 words for MJEDF and JWDRF), and must be specific to the student and to the award for which he/she is nominated.
   c. See additional specific award requirements in the attached documentation.

2. Students may not hold more than one fellowship or assistantship without explicit permission from the Graduate School.

3. All nominees must be admitted to the Graduate School as regular, full-time graduate students. Scholarship recipients currently applying to the Graduate School must be admitted within 2 weeks of selection for the scholarship. See additional requirements regarding award eligibility.


5. Nomination deadlines are noted for each individual award.

6. All nominees must have any/all required entrance examination scores on file in the Graduate School office (e.g., GRE, GMAT, MAT, and English proficiency examinations [if applicable]).

7. Recipients of awards will receive tuition coverage for a maximum of nine (9) graduate credit hours (400-600 level) at the University of Maine each semester (Eckardt fellowship recipients will receive additional pay in lieu of tuition coverage). Recipients must remain full-time students for the duration of the award. Doctoral students who have passed their comprehensive examinations (the Notification of Comprehensive Examination form must be on file with the Graduate School indicating their admission to candidacy) may register for one (1) credit hour per semester and be considered full-time students. All others must register for at least six (6) credit hours per semester to be considered full-time students.

8. Three of the awards: 1) Atlantic Provinces Scholarship, 2) Trustee Tuition Scholarship, and 3) Thurgood Marshall Scholarship offer only tuition support. The Graduate School recognizes that occasionally it is necessary to combine resources to provide competitive funding for a graduate student. If stipend support becomes available and there are no other tuition benefits associated with the stipend funds, a department may petition the Graduate School for permission to allow the student to earn a stipend and keep the scholarship award. The intent of this provision is to promote the identification of additional sources of support for graduate students, not to eliminate tuition costs from grant budgets.

Award Nomination Checklist

☐ Have you read over the nomination guidelines?
☐ Did you include the nominee’s ‘Student ID’ number?
☐ Does the letter of support include required information based on the specific award?
☐ Have you created one PDF with all supporting documents in the required order for that specific award?
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Janet Waldron Doctoral Research Fellowship (JWDRF)

Award Details
Number to be awarded: 2-5
Limit: 2 nominations per unit

A minimum of two (2) Janet Waldron Doctoral Research Fellowships (JWDRF) are available in academic year 2017-18 to be awarded by the Graduate School, designed to stimulate research and scholarship at UMaine as measured by a research productivity and doctoral-degree graduate rate.

The award recipient will receive: a stipend of $25,000 (12 monthly installments of $2,083.33); a tuition waiver for up to nine (9) credit hours for the fall and spring semesters, up to 1 (one) credit in summer of 2018; and half of the cost of the University of Maine Health Insurance Policy for Graduate Assistants/Fellows.

The JWDRF is intended to provide up to two years (24 months) of support for doctoral students to assist in completion of their degrees. Support for the second year is contingent upon budget availability and success in meeting productivity goals. JWDRF recipients and their advisors are required to submit an interim report in the spring of the first year and a final report at the end of the fellowship period.

Recipients must register for a minimum of six (6) credit hours per semester unless they have passed their comprehensive examinations, in which case they may register for at least one (1) credit hour per semester.

Eligibility
The JWDRF is open to all full-time doctoral students, regardless of discipline, who have completed at least one year as a full-time doctoral student at UMaine by the time the award is received.

Nomination Procedure
All electronic nomination forms must include in one (1) pdf file the following documents in the order listed below:

- Letter of Support:
  - Written collaboratively by the student’s advisor and graduate coordinator
  - An explanation of how JWDRF award will enhance the productivity of student, faculty member, and graduate program
  - A statement of the measures of award success (what will indicate appropriate success toward JWDRF goals at the end of each fellowship year?)

- Dissertation Abstract:
  - Written by the student
  - Not to exceed 450 words

- Student’s CV
- Faculty’s CV

Selection Process
Awards will be distributed competitively based on the selection criteria listed below. The Graduate Executive Committee, chaired by the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School and including the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Senior Associate Dean, and six elected members from the Graduate Board.

Selection Criteria
(1) Janet Waldron Doctoral Research Fellowships are open to full-time doctoral students who have completed at least one year as a full-time doctoral student at UMaine by the time that the award is received. This policy will allow the faculty sponsor to explicitly address student performance and the potential of the student to fulfill the award expectations. Preference will be given to students who have been admitted to candidacy or shown other evidence of having a high likelihood of completing the degree.
Fellowships are intended to enhance research productivity. Therefore, faculty advisors should explain how the addition of the research fellowship will impact specific performance indicators that are applicable to the discipline in which the student is receiving the degree. Preference will be given to students in areas that have demonstrated a commitment to doctoral education through leveraging of existing research grants and teaching assistantships for the support of doctoral students.

Fellowships are intended to improve our national standing among public research universities by, for example, increasing the annual number of doctorates graduated (e.g., http://mup.asu.edu/). To achieve these goals, the Fellow must intend to be a full-time student for the term of their doctoral studies. Preference will be given to faculty sponsors with a track record of timely completion of their doctoral students. Doctoral Research Fellowships cannot extend past the sixth year of full-time doctoral studies at UMaine, as degree completion would be expected by that time.

Fellowships will typically start on September 1. By March 15 of the first year of JWDRF support, the faculty advisor must submit a report on fellowship-related activities to the Dean of the Graduate School, and the faculty advisor must certify that a fellow is making satisfactory progress toward the doctoral degree. After certification, fellowship funds will be made available for the second year. If the report is not provided, or if the Dean of the Graduate School deems the activities to be inadequate, the remaining award may be forfeited.

Fellowship support is to be used in consecutive semesters. Interruptions in use of the award will result in the forfeiture of the affected semester(s) unless a request for interruption is approved by the Dean of the Graduate School.

The advisor or department of the fellow has the option within the above constraints to provide additional supplementary funding if available. However, fellows may not take on more than 10 hours per week of additional employment of any kind above the fellowship commitment. Ideally, any additional employment should be related to the student’s dissertation topic.

Fellows should acknowledge the Janet Waldron Doctoral Research Fellowship in publications including web pages, whether copyrighted or not, by either an authorship footnote or an acknowledgment of support.

Nominating Unit Deadline
All nominations must be submitted by the Unit’s Graduate Coordinator through the Graduate School website (https://umaine.edu/graduate/facultystaff-resources/financial-awards-nominations/) by Friday, December 2, 2016 at 4:30PM EST. Students or advisors must contact the Graduate Coordinator of their unit for internal nomination deadlines.

Notification
Award winners will be announced by Friday, December 23, 2016, via mail with copies to the student’s advisor and graduate program coordinator.
Michael J. Eckardt Dissertation Fellowship (MJEDF) in MEIF Areas

Award Details
Number to be awarded: maximum of 5
Limit: 2 nominations per unit

Five (5) research fellowships are available for doctoral candidates completing their dissertations in the following Maine Economic Improvement Fund (MEIF) targeted areas: aquaculture and marine sciences technology; biotechnology; composite materials engineering; environmental sciences technology; information sciences and technology; precision manufacturing; and forestry and agriculture.

The award recipient will receive: a stipend of $20,000 (12 monthly installments of $1,666.67) and one (1) credit in summer of 2018. Award recipients are responsible for paying tuition in fall & spring semester [1 credit in fall and spring minimum] at the Maine resident rate and 100% of the required health insurance premium. The award is non-renewable. It is expected that awardees will complete their doctoral studies by the end of the fellowship year.

Eligibility
MJEDF’s are open to doctoral candidates completing their dissertations in the following Maine Economic Improvement Fund (MEIF) targeted areas: aquaculture and marine sciences technology; biotechnology; composite materials engineering; environmental sciences technology; information sciences and technology; precision manufacturing; and forestry and agriculture.

Students must be in their final year of doctoral study and it is expected that awardees will complete their doctoral studies by the end of the fellowship year.

Nomination Procedure
All electronic nomination forms must include in one (1) pdf file the following documents in the order listed below:

- Letter of Support:
  - Written collaboratively by the student’s advisor and graduate coordinator
  - An explanation that discusses the significance of the doctoral student’s dissertation to the State of Maine, indicates which MEIF area(s) is(are) involved, provides student’s anticipated graduation date AND an explanation of how MJEDF award will enhance research productivity of student, faculty member, and graduate program, with a statement of the measures of award success (what will indicate appropriate success toward MJEDF goals at the end of the fellowship year?)

- Dissertation Abstract:
  - Written by the student
  - Not to exceed 450 words

- Student’s CV
- Faculty Advisor’s CV

Selection Process
Awards will be distributed competitively based on the selection criteria listed below. The Graduate Executive Committee, chaired by the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School and including the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Senior Associate Dean, and six elected members from the Graduate Board.

Selection Criteria
Selection for this award will be based on graduate GPA, Letter of Support, Dissertation Abstract, test scores, and the student’s and faculty advisor’s record of scholarly achievement.
Nominating Unit Deadline
All nominations must be submitted by the Unit’s Graduate Coordinator through the Graduate School website (https://umaine.edu/graduate/facultystaff-resources/financial-awards-nominations/) by **Friday, December 2, 2016 at 4:30PM EST**. Students or advisors must contact the Graduate Coordinator of their unit for internal nomination deadlines.

Notification
Award winners will be announced by Friday, December 23, 2016, via mail with copies to the student’s advisor and graduate program coordinator.
Susan J. Hunter Teaching Fellowship (SJHTF)

Award Details
Number to be awarded: 3-4
Limit: 2 nominations per unit

SJH Teaching Fellows will be required to teach one lower division course (400 or lower) normally scheduled to be taught by a member of the Graduate Faculty for Spring 2018, and the Graduate Faculty member (or departmental colleague) must agree to teach a graduate class (a one-credit graduate seminar or full graduate class) that otherwise would not have been taught in the Spring 2018 semester.

The Graduate School also expects that any funding intended to support the SJHTF will be awarded to another student. If an SJHTF recipient holds a Chase, Eckardt, or Waldron fellowship, the winner must relinquish one of the awards. The award recipient will receive: a stipend of $7,300 (5 monthly installments of $1,460); a one (1) credit tuition waiver for the spring 2018 semester; and half of the cost of the University of Maine Health Insurance Policy for Graduate Assistants/Fellows.

Eligibility
Intended for doctoral students regardless of discipline who plan a career that involves college or university teaching and who have passed their comprehensive exams and advanced to candidacy.

Nomination Procedure
All electronic nomination forms must include in one (1) pdf file the following documents in the order listed below:
- Letter of Support:
  - Written collaboratively by the student’s advisor and graduate coordinator
  - Includes the names and numbers of the course what will be taught by the nominee and the course that will be taught by a unit faculty member
  - A brief explanation of the mentoring plan for the student
- Teaching Philosophy:
  - Written by the student
  - Not to exceed 450 words
- Student’s CV

Selection Process
Awards will be distributed competitively based on the selection criteria listed below. The Graduate Executive Committee, chaired by the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School and including the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Senior Associate Dean, and six elected members from the Graduate Board.

Selection Criteria
Evaluation will be based on: the student’s record; unit need for the additional teaching (both undergraduate and graduate courses); nominee’s potential for teaching and the role of teaching in the student’s career aspirations; and letter of recommendation.

Nominating Unit Deadline
All nominations must be submitted by the Unit’s Graduate Coordinator through the Graduate School website (https://umaine.edu/graduate/facultystaff-resources/financial-awards-nominations/) by Friday, December 2, 2016 at 4:30PM EST. Students or advisors must contact the Graduate Coordinator of their unit for internal nomination deadlines.

Notification
Award winners will be announced by Friday, December 23, 2016, via mail with copies to student’s advisor and graduate program coordinator.
Chase Distinguished Research Assistantship (CDRA)

Award Details
Number to be awarded: 10
Limit: 1 nomination per unit

Ten (10) research assistantships awarded annually with: a stipend of $14,600 for the academic year (nine monthly installments of $1,622.22); a tuition waiver for up to 18 (eighteen) credits, distributed over the fall, spring, and summer semesters (with a maximum of 6 additional credits in summer 2017); and half of the cost of the University of Maine Health Insurance Policy for Graduate Assistants/Fellows. Recipients must register for a minimum of six (6) credit hours per semester.

Eligibility
CDRA nominations are limited to students who have completed at least one semester of graduate study at the University of Maine prior to being nominated. Preference will be given to students who are nearing completion of their degrees and to doctoral students.

Nomination Procedure
All electronic nomination forms must include in one (1) pdf file the following documents in the order listed below:
- Letter of Support:
  o Written collaboratively by the student’s advisor and graduate coordinator
  o An explanation of the importance of the proposed research and provides the student’s anticipated graduation date
- Research Prospectus:
  o Written by the student describing in layperson’s terms, a research plan that is directly associated with the student’s thesis/dissertation. For students in non-thesis programs, a description of the practical application of their work as laid out in his/her Program of Study
  o Not to exceed 1,000 words
- Student’s CV

Selection Process
Awards will be distributed competitively based on the selection criteria listed below. The Graduate Executive Committee, chaired by the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School and including the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Senior Associate Dean, and six elected members from the Graduate Board.

Selection Criteria
Selection for this award will be based on graduate GPA, Letter of Support, Research Prospectus, test scores, and the student’s record of scholarly achievement. Preference will be given to doctoral students and those who are working on their thesis or dissertation.

Nominating Unit Deadline
All nominations must be submitted by the Unit’s Graduate Coordinator through the Graduate School website (https://umaine.edu/graduate/facultystaff-resources/financial-awards-nominations/) by Friday, February 3, 2017 at 4:30PM EST. Students or advisors must contact the Graduate Coordinator of their unit for internal nomination deadlines.

Notification
Award winners will be announced by Friday, March 3, 2017, via mail with copies to the student’s advisor and graduate program coordinator.
Atlantic Provinces Graduate Tuition Scholarship

Award Details
Number to be awarded: maximum of 3
Limit: 2 nominations per unit

Three (3) full-tuition scholarships are available (see below for eligibility). The award recipient will receive: a tuition scholarship for up to eighteen (18) credits for the Academic Year and up to 6 (six) additional credits in summer of 2018. Awards may be renewable for a second year if the student remains in good standing and the graduate coordinator contacts the Graduate School to request an extension of the scholarship.

Eligibility
Available to Canadian citizens who are graduates of the colleges and universities of the Atlantic Provinces and Quebec.

Nomination Procedure
All electronic nomination forms must include in one (1) pdf file the following documents in the order listed below:
- Letter of Support:
  - Written by the graduate coordinator
  - Describe the reasons for nominating the student
  - Should not exceed 450 words
  - Must be specific to the student and to the award for which he/she is nominated
- Student’s CV

Selection Process
Awards will be distributed competitively based on the selection criteria listed below. The Graduate Executive Committee, chaired by the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School and including the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Senior Associate Dean, and six elected members from the Graduate Board.

Selection Criteria
Selection for this award will be based on graduate GPA, Letter of Support, test scores, and the student’s record of scholarly achievement.

Nominating Unit Deadline
All nominations must be submitted by the Unit’s Graduate Coordinator through the Graduate School website (https://umaine.edu/graduate/facultystaff-resources/financial-awards-nominations/) by Friday, February 3, 2017 at 4:30PM EST. Students or advisors must contact the Graduate Coordinator of their unit for internal nomination deadlines.

Notification
Award winners will be announced by Friday, March 3, 2017, via mail with copies to student’s advisor and graduate program coordinator.
Trustee Tuition Scholarship

Award Details
Number to be awarded: 17-19
Limit: 3 nominations per unit

The award recipient will receive: up to eighteen (18) credits for the Academic Year and up to 6 (six) additional credits in summer of 2018.

Eligibility
Available to all full-time registered graduate students not supported by other scholarships, fellowships, or assistantships.

Nomination Procedure
All electronic nomination forms must include in one (1) pdf file the following documents in the order listed below:

- Letter of Support:
  - Written by the graduate coordinator
  - Describe the reasons for nominating the student
  - Should not exceed 450 words
  - Must be specific to the student and to the award for which he/she is nominated
- Student’s CV

Selection Process
Awards will be distributed competitively based on the selection criteria listed below. The Graduate Executive Committee, chaired by the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School and including the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Senior Associate Dean, and six elected members from the Graduate Board.

Selection Criteria
Selection for this award will be based on graduate GPA, Letter of Support, test scores, and the student’s record of scholarly achievement.

Nominating Unit Deadline
All nominations must be submitted by the Unit’s Graduate Coordinator through the Graduate School website (https://umaine.edu/graduate/facultystaff-resources/financial-awards-nominations/) by Friday, February 3, 2017 at 4:30PM EST. Students or advisors must contact the Graduate Coordinator of their unit for internal nomination deadlines.

Notification
Award winners will be announced by Friday, March 3, 2017, via mail with copies to student’s advisor and graduate program coordinator.
Thurgood Marshall Tuition Scholarship

Award Details
Number to be awarded: 1-3
Limit: 2 nominations per unit

The award recipient will receive: up to eighteen (18) credits for the Academic Year and up to six (6) additional credits in summer of 2018.

Eligibility
Available to all full-time registered graduate students whose socioeconomic background, prior academic or work experience, and/or graduate educational interests would bring a unique perspective to The University of Maine community. Preference is given to individuals from groups that have been traditionally underrepresented at The University of Maine.

Nomination Procedure
All electronic nomination forms must include in one (1) pdf file the following documents in the order listed below:

- Letter of Support:
  - Written by the graduate coordinator
  - Describe the reasons for nominating the student
  - Should not exceed 450 words
  - Must be specific to the student and to the award for which he/she is nominated

- Student’s CV

Selection Process
Awards will be distributed competitively based on the selection criteria listed below. The Graduate Executive Committee, chaired by the Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School and including the Associate Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Assistant Vice President for Graduate Studies and Senior Associate Dean, and six elected members from the Graduate Board.

Selection Criteria
Selection for this award will be based on graduate GPA, Letter of Support, test scores, and the student’s record of scholarly achievement.

Nominating Unit Deadline
All nominations must be submitted by the Unit’s Graduate Coordinator through the Graduate School website (https://umaine.edu/graduate/facultystaff-resources/financial-awards-nominations/) by Friday, February 3, 2017 at 4:30PM EST. Students or advisors must contact the Graduate Coordinator of their unit for internal nomination deadlines.

Notification
Award winners will be announced by Friday, March 3, 2017, via mail with copies to student’s advisor and graduate program coordinator.