Graduate College Recruitment Funding Program for 2020

Abbreviations: GA = graduate assistant, RA = research assistant, TA = teaching assistant, AA = administrative assistant

- All funding programs require DOGEs of graduate majors to nominate prospective students. Applicants may not nominate themselves.
- The nomination portal will open December 9, 2019.
- Unless otherwise noted, the Graduate College will not fund the tuition scholarships that assistantship awardees must receive.
- Graduate majors that have fulfilled the requests below from the Graduate College will be prioritized for support.
  1. Confirmation that all doctoral students in the program have been formally evaluated.
  2. Latest edition of program handbook is uploaded to the website of the Graduate College.
  3. Program learning goals are uploaded to the website of the Graduate College (due 12/20/19).

George A. Jackson Assistantship (all graduate programs may nominate applicants)

Named for Dr. George A. Jackson, former assistant dean of the Graduate College (1994-2009), this initiative aims to promote diversity and inclusion of graduate students from populations historically underrepresented in graduate education. Applicants identifying as African American, American Indian, and/or Hispanic/Latino, are among those who will be eligible. This new initiative advances Dr. Jackson’s strong commitment to and passion for the recruitment and graduation of students from underrepresented backgrounds. Only newly recruited students with a fall entry term to be appointed as half-time GAs are eligible. The Graduate College will fund 100% of the standard stipend for the program for half-time RAs and TAs for up to two years for students pursuing a master’s degree, up to three years for doctoral students who have earned a master’s degree, and up to five years for doctoral students who do not hold a master’s degree. Terms for AA appointments will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis. Students in good standing who do not graduate by the end of the award period must continue to be supported with half-time GAs funded entirely from outside the Graduate College. Each awarded master’s student will also receive a Tuition Award for Diversity. This award fully covers the 50% of tuition billed to the student while the student is in good academic standing. When a student does not graduate by the end of the Jackson Assistantship funding, the institutional policy on tuition scholarships for master’s students holding a GA appointment may be applied. This program replaces the Graduate Minority Assistantship Program (GMAP), Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professorate (AGEP), and the George Washington Carver (GWC) Doctoral Fellowship; however, commitments to students currently funded through these programs will be honored through their eligibility periods. Financial terms of the Jackson Assistantship Program may change for entry semesters after Fall 2020.

Iowa State Ronald E. McNair Scholarship (all graduate programs may nominate applicants)

This scholarship program is designed to increase the number of McNair Scholars at Iowa State University. The Ronald E. McNair Program is federally funded and national in scope. McNair Scholars are prepared while undergraduate students to enter graduate school. They typically are highly
motivated and more fully informed about how to adjust to graduate school than other new graduate students. McNair Scholars are from underrepresented groups, including first-generation students. Iowa State waives its graduate application fee for all McNair Scholars. Approved applicants will receive one-time scholarships of $3,000 (master’s students) or $6,000 (doctoral students). Each scholarship will be awarded in two parts: 1/3 during the first semester in the program and 2/3 upon full approval of the program of study. In addition, recipients of this scholarship will be eligible to receive up to $1,000 in funds to support travel to one national or international conference in their scholarly field to present research results they generated. This scholarship may be combined with the George A. Jackson Assistantship.

Graduate College 1913 Assistantship Program (all graduate programs may nominate applicants, but provisions differ for programs that grew Fall 2018 to Fall 2019 vs. programs that did not*)

This assistantship program is available for exceptionally qualified new master’s and doctoral students and is flexible both in terms of funding level and in years of duration. Doctoral students will be prioritized in graduate majors in which there is a doctoral program. The 12-month stipend will be $27,000, $30,000, or $33,000 for one to five years. Typically, stipends will not change during the award period, though programs seeking increases may make a special request to the Dean of the Graduate College. The amount and duration of the stipend will be proposed by the nominating program and subject to negotiation between the program and Graduate College. All awards will begin in year one of students’ degree programs (i.e., programs may not elect to have the award begin sometime after year one). For graduate programs that grew from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019, the Graduate College will fund 2/3 of the stipend, and an academic college will match the other 1/3. For graduate programs that did not grow from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019, the Graduate College will fund 1/3 of the stipend, and an academic college will match the other 2/3. If the student does not have a fully approved POSC by the end of year one (master’s students) or two (doctoral students), the award will be permanently suspended.

Graduate College 1913 Relocation Scholarship (open to all graduate programs that grew Fall 2018 to Fall 2019*)

Iowa State’s Graduate Division, which became the Graduate College, began in 1913. This $1,913 scholarship is to incentivize students coming from other universities to matriculate in on-campus graduate programs at Iowa State. The financial award is intended to help students cover costs of relocating to Ames. This 1913 Award may be combined with other scholarships.

Graduate College 1913 On-line Scholarship (open to all on-line/distance graduate programs)

Iowa State’s Graduate Division, which became the Graduate College, began in 1913. This $1,913 scholarship is to incentivize applicants to choose Iowa State for an on-line (distance) graduate program. This 1913 Award may be combined with other scholarships.

Graduate College Recruitment Insurance Program (open to all graduate programs)

This program provides financial backing for graduate programs to extend more GA offers than they otherwise would early in the recruiting cycle, while the most qualified applicants remain available. For example, if a program has GA funds to support four new students, and the program’s typical yield (the fraction of students who accept offers) is 50%, the program might normally extend offers to no more than eight applicants. This recruitment program is intended to allow such a program to extend more
than eight offers to its most qualified applicants. The program would receive an advanced commitment from the Graduate College (2/3 of the necessary amount) and an academic college (1/3 of the necessary amount) for full, half-time stipend support for one year for any students beyond six who accept. Note that the numbers used in this description (four, 50% yield, eight) are only examples to illustrate the intent of this program.

**Process**

Nominations will be accepted at the portal provided by the Graduate College starting on December 9, 2019. The site will remain open for nominations for most programs through February 29, 2020. The routing of nominations for the Graduate College Recruitment Insurance Program, however, must begin by January 31, 2020.

Nominations will be accepted from program DOGEs only.

Nominations for the Graduate College 1913 Assistantship Program and the Graduate College Recruitment Insurance Program will route first to a dean of an academic college for approval/denial. For nominations from interdepartmental majors, either a dean from the academic college of the expected major professor (if the likely major professor is known) or a dean from the academic college of the DOGE (if there are rotations or other reasons for a delay in the choice of a major professor) should approve/deny. Approved nominations then will route to the Graduate College, where making decisions rapidly will be prioritized. DOGEs and others in departments/graduate majors should inform students of their offers/awards immediately. Early offers and regular, personal communication increase recruiting success.