

Mentored Research Award, 2016 - 17

The UC Office of the President will again fund the campus' Mentored Research Award program. The purpose of this program is to assist doctoral students in acquiring sophisticated research skills by working under faculty mentorship on their own pre-dissertation research. Each mentor is expected to discuss academic issues, network on behalf of the fellow, write letters of recommendation, advise on the fellow's dissertation plans, and help the fellow avoid academic obstacles. Fellows receive a \$16,000 stipend plus payment of in-state fees.

To be eligible, a student must:

- Hold U.S. citizenship, permanent residency, or be AB540-eligible.
- Exhibit one or more of the following characteristics:
 - Experience of situations or conditions which were an impediment to advancing to graduate study, such as the absence of a family member who attended college; matriculation at a school or schools with poor financial or curricular support; having a physical or learning disability; or having worked long hours while attending school; or
 - Academic research interests focusing on cultural, societal or educational problems as they affect educationally disadvantaged segments of society; or
 - Evidence of an intention to use the doctoral degree toward serving educationally underrepresented segments of society.
- Be making adequate academic progress towards their degree, as certified by their adviser.

Evaluation and selection criteria:

- Will contribute to diversifying the academy.
- Demonstration of academic promise and potential.
- Evidence of academic progress.
- Preference will be given to nominees who have not received other major fellowships.

Application procedures:

To be considered for the campus competition, applicants must be nominated by their departments.

The application is a two-step process:

- 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 (<http://tango.berkeley.edu>) by March 7, 2016

Applications must include:

- Statement of eligibility
- A statement from the nominee describing his or her academic progress to date, the proposed research project, the importance of that project to the student's academic career, and the ways in which a Mentored Research Award would help the student to achieve his or her goals
- Unofficial graduate transcript(s)

The department will submit the following on behalf of the nominee:

- A letter from the proposed mentor describing his or her plans for mentoring the student and past experience in mentoring
- A letter from the Chair of the nominee's department or graduate group supporting the nomination and confirming the nominee's eligibility; this letter must also be signed by the department's Equity Adviser

The deadline for receipt of nominations is Monday, March 7, 2016. Awards will be made in April.