



Center for Inclusive Education

2401 Computer Science
2nd Floor
Stony Brook, NY 11794-4422

TEL: 631.632.9560
FAX: 631.632.1837

CIE_graduateschool@stonybrook.edu

Thursday, December 19, 2019

The Graduate School is pleased to announce this year's call for nominations for the Dr. W. Burghardt Turner Fellowship to recruit to Stony Brook students of high academic promise from groups historically underrepresented in graduate study and the professoriate.

Note: Graduate programs that submit one or more Turner nominations may make one additional offer beyond their number of authorized offers under the backstopping process. A program that is allocated 5 lines with an offer ratio of 3 will be allowed to make 15 offers in addition to their top Turner nominee. ***This means that your top Turner nominee will not count against your authorized offers. This does not mean, however, that your program will receive an additional TA line if a Turner Fellowship is awarded. If your program over-recruits, your extra lines will have to be paid back via the backstopping process.*** The purpose of this experiment is to allow you to go after top diverse applicants recognizing that the conversion of such offers is often lower.

We anticipate extending 30-35 offers to yield 15-20 new Turner fellows for the fall of 2020.

PLEASE NOTE! NEW TO THIS YEAR:

As part of a campus-wide effort to streamline graduate student stipend appointment processing, we are making a procedural change to our Turner financial packages starting with Fall 2020 appointments. This change will result in departments no longer having to fill out the Turner supplement amount on the state appointment form or fill out a separate RF Fellowship form for the Turner portion of the stipend package. Starting with Fall 2020 appointments, the Graduate School will be disbursing the supplement as a financial aid post via the student's SOLAR account, in increments over each semester. For students who are in a stand-alone, Turner-supported fellowship year (usually in their final year), the Graduate School will continue to process their appointment paperwork as a full Graduate Assistant. More detailed procedural information will be forthcoming as we prepare for our next year's financial package processing.

Eligibility and Award Structure

Nominees must be US citizens or permanent residents who will contribute to the diversity of the student body. As the focus of the Turner Fellowship is to support students in pursuit of terminal degrees, doctoral applicants are given highest consideration for awards. A very limited number of master's fellowship nominees will be considered with strong justification. For master's nominees, priority consideration will be given to those students whose departments are offering additional funding support (assistantship, tuition scholarship, etc.). The State University of New York offers these graduate fellowships to students who have been admitted to graduate or professional study and who will contribute to the diversity of the student body, especially those who can demonstrate that they have overcome a disadvantage or other impediment to success in higher education. In awarding fellowships, programs may give consideration to students who are of a race or ethnicity that is underrepresented in its graduate and professional programs but may not make awards solely on that basis. If you have any questions regarding the eligibility of an applicant or concerning this program, please feel free to contact the Turner Fellowship program at turnerfellowships@stonybrook.edu.

The duration of the Turner Fellowship award is five years for doctoral students, four years for medical school students, three years for MFA students, and up to two years for terminal master's students (contingent upon length of the degree program). Students who have previously earned a master's degree or who are currently enrolled in a master's degree program and are applying to transition to the doctorate are eligible for nomination.

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The Turner Fellowship provides \$50,000 (\$40,000 for MD, \$30,000 for the MFA and \$20,000 for terminal, two year masters degrees) in supplemental support to attract the best domestic applicants from underrepresented groups paid as a supplement to program-level support (assistantship, stipend, tuition scholarship, etc.).

Students nominated for doctoral degree fellowships must have already received an offer of admission to the program with full support. Nomination for the Turner Fellowship by the program implies agreement to provide a minimum of a ½ TA/GA/RA line, plus full tuition scholarship for the duration of the fellowship period. **Departments strongly encouraged to maintain full TA line support to Turner awardees and *not* use the Turner to reduce or offset your program's cost.** In recent years some doctoral programs have found it preferable to divide the Turner supplement support differently among the five year period. To that end, the Graduate School is open to alternative methods of configuring funding to recruit Turner Fellows in cases where the standard model has not yielded success.

Deadlines

First Round: All nominees for round one must be identified within Apply Yourself by **Tuesday, January 28**. Complete nomination docket received by **Friday, January 31** will be reviewed in the **first round**.

The selection committee will review the nominations during the period of February 3-14 and expects to finalize its decisions shortly thereafter.

If your doctoral degree program's deadline date for submission of applications that will be considered for financial support is later than January 15, please contact the Turner Fellowship office.

Nominations Procedures and Materials:

A maximum of **five** nominations will be considered by any one graduate program or department. Nomination materials must be submitted electronically to "TurnerFellowships@stonybrook.edu" by the Graduate Program Director **before the close of business on the deadline dates indicated**.

1. Identify the applicant in the Apply Yourself (AY) system.
2. Letter of nomination written/endorsed by the Graduate Program Director. The letter must include: (a) specific reasons why the nominee is considered a top applicant, (b) a statement describing the criteria the program employs in making admissions decisions and an evaluation of the nominee against these criteria and (c) clearly address how the nominee will contribute to the diversity of the student body [if possible, share any information related to underrepresentation, disadvantage or impediment faced by the nominee with respect to their academic goals/experience].
3. An outline of the complete package of financial support offered for the duration of the degree: explain and show the standard support package offered to the nominee by the department and how the program would propose to restructure if the Turner Fellowship is also awarded. ***Programs are encouraged to provide comparative data with peer institutions as a reference point for comparison of the Turner offer.***
4. A copy of the nominee's Offer of Admission Letter and Offer of Financial Support signed by the Graduate Program Director.
5. Submission of relevant transcripts and copies of the nominee's three letters of recommendation from their application to graduate study *if these items are not available via Apply Yourself*.
6. Copy of the nominee's résumé or curriculum vita *if this item is not available via Apply Yourself*.
7. A one-page personal statement from the nominee stating the ways in which the candidate believes that they identify with the Turner Fellowship and how the award of a Turner Fellowship will benefit society at large. The Turner statement should also include what the candidate would contribute to the Turner Fellowship program, outlining his/her history of service and leadership. **The Turner statement must be different from the personal statement submitted via apply yourself for department admissions review.** The review committee is interested in important experiences and activities that demonstrate the



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nominee's alignment with the goals and mission of the Turner Fellowship program. Turner Fellowship awards are not solely based on the nominee's academic record. Along with strong academic qualifications, we seek to select diverse fellows who will serve as future leaders in their professions, their community and society.

Complete details about the mission of the Turner Fellowship program and nomination instructions, can be found on the Turner website at www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/cie/turner/fellows/Prospective-Fellows/turnerfellowship. If you encounter problems compiling or sending the electronic nomination package, please contact Angel Gonzalez at TurnerFellowships@stonybrook.edu.