

OARDC Director's Associateship Award

The Ohio State University is one of the world's best public research universities, offering about 280 graduate study programs in all. The College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) offers 17 of those programs through its academic departments, interdisciplinary programs, and School of Environment and Natural Resources. CFAES is made of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) and OSU Extension. Together, these two arms translate cutting edge research to stakeholders across the state.

Research is a key component of graduate education and much of the research done at the college is supported by the OARDC. Thus, these graduate awards are offered through OARDC funding to recruit the very best graduate students studying agricultural research. Up to four (4) Associateships will be awarded in 2019.

I. Eligibility

Awards are open to students seeking to start an M.S. or Ph.D. program at The Ohio State University.

II. Duration of Appointment

Duration of the Associateship will follow departmental (or school) guidelines. CFAES will provide one-year funding for all awards, including any applicable tuition and fees for M.S. and Ph.D. students. Associateships who do not complete their degree in the two- or three-year period will continue to be funded as associateships from the normal annual allocations made available by CFAES to academic units in which students are enrolled. Funds to support the awards will be available on July 1, 2019. Note that if an OSU Fellowship is received, the Associateship can be deferred until the following year. If a department award is received, the Associateship is to be used first and the department award deferred until the following year.

Our top choices for these Fellowships will often evaluate opportunities elsewhere. Consequently, this fellowship program must be coupled with an aggressive recruitment of top candidates.

III. Stipend

The award will total \$23,300 for one-year for M.S. candidates, or \$25,300 for one-year for Ph.D. candidates, including any applicable tuition and fees. Awardees must carry a minimum of 12 graduate credit hours per semester and may not hold other appointments during the award period. Fellowship recipients are not required to perform services as a condition for receiving the stipend awarded during the fellowship year. Responsibilities in subsequent years will be dictated by the source(s) of funding.



IV. Nomination Guidelines

Each graduate program may submit up to five (5) nominations as are eligible according to the guidelines and depending on the quality of nominees, a program or department may receive up to four (4) of the (7) seven awards offered. The prospective faculty advisor should be in CFAES or hold an OARDC appointment. Although applications can be submitted for both the FAES Environmental Fellowship and the OARDC Associateship programs, students will be only permitted one award from one of the programs. In addition, applications for all OARDC awards (Director's and Minority awards) are limited to 2 applicants per competition from any department or program. Departments can submit up to two applications and can receive a maximum of two Associateships per year.

V. Nomination Procedure

Graduate Studies Committees from departments (school) or the Environmental Science Graduate Program should nominate students by electronic submission at oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions on or before **5:00pm Thursday, January 31, 2019**.

The nomination packet must include:

- a. Nomination cover page.
- a. College transcript(s) from OSU and previous institution(s). A GPA of 3.6 or higher (on a scale of 4) is desirable.
- b. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are optional. A 75th percentile average on the GRE general exam's Verbal and Quantitative components, and a 4.0 on the GRE Analytical Writing component are desirable.
- b. Three letters of recommendation.
- c. A personal statement from the student describing his/her research and professional goals (up to two-pages, typed, single spaced). The student's name should be added to the top of their personal statement.
- d. A curriculum vitae outlining the applicant's educational training, relevant work experiences, honors, and other evidence of scholarly productivity and performance (e.g. publications) is recommended
- e. Letter from prospective faculty advisor or graduate studies chair on how student's research will contribute to one or more of the College's priority areas. The prospective faculty advisor should hold an OARDC appointment and this should be specified in the letter of nomination. Also, the prospective faculty advisor or graduate studies chair should indicate how the student's research will support one or more of the following strategic areas/grand challenges: Sustainability; One Health; Rural-Urban Interface; and/or Preparing the Next Generation of Scientists and Leaders.
- f. The OSU Admissions Application Worksheet Form

VI. Evaluation Procedures

Nominations will be evaluated by the Director's Associateship Committee. The target date for a final announcement of the awards is approximately **February 18, 2019**.

**Nomination Cover Page
OARDC Director's Associateship Program**

Nominating Graduate Program: _____

Nominee: _____

Requested Degree: _____ M.S. _____ Ph.D.

Probable Faculty Advisor: _____

By the published deadline, this nomination must be electronically uploaded as **one pdf document** and contain the following materials to be considered complete. **Nominations with missing documents will not be considered for awards.**

_____ Nomination Cover Page

_____ College transcripts - OSU and previous institution(s)

_____ GRE scores (optional)

_____ Three (3) letters of recommendation

_____ Personal statement by the student (up to two-pages, typed, single spaced)
describing his/her research and professional goals and research accomplishments

_____ A curriculum vitae for the applicant

_____ Letter from prospective faculty advisor or graduate studies chair on how student's
research supports the College's Grand Challenges

_____ OSU Admissions Application Worksheet Form

_____ Combine documents into **one pdf** and upload to oarc.ohio-state.edu/competitions