

OARDC Minority Associateship Award

The Ohio State University is a land-grant institution and 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 as a land-grant university, we hope to recruit top students with diverse backgrounds in order to solve the grand challenges of the future. Thus, these graduate awards are offered through OARDC funding to recruit the very best graduate students from underrepresented minority backgrounds studying agricultural research. Up to two (2) Minority Associateships will be awarded in 2019.

I. Eligibility

Awards are open to students from an underrepresented minority seeking to start an M.S. or Ph.D. program at The Ohio State University. For the purposes of this award, underrepresented minority is defined as: African American, American Indian, and Alaska Native, Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders. Nominees must be U.S. citizens.

II. Duration of Appointment

Duration of the Associateship will follow departmental (or school) guidelines. The contribution to the Associateship from the CFAES Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Education will be limited to one-year 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.



IV. Nomination Guidelines

A department may submit up to two nominations. Although applications can be submitted for both the FAES Environmental Fellowship and the Associateship programs, students will be only permitted one award from one of the programs. In addition, applications for all awards (Director's and Minority) are limited to 2 applicants per competition from any department or program.

I. 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.
- b. College transcript(s) from OSU and previous institution(s). A GPA of 3.6 or higher (on a scale of 4) is desirable.
- c. 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.
- d. Three letters of recommendation.
- e. 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.
- f. 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.
- g. A letter from prospective faculty advisor or graduate studies chair on how the 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 CFAES Grand Challenges: Sustainability; One Health; Rural-Urban Interface; and/or Preparing the Next Generation of Scientists and Leaders.
- h. The OSU Admissions Application Worksheet Form.

II. Evaluation Procedure

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

**Nomination Cover Page
OARDC Minority Associateship Program**

Nominating Department or School: _____

Nominee: _____

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

Probable Faculty Advisor: _____

The nominee represents which of the following under-represented minorities:

_____ African American

_____ Hispanic/ Latino

_____ American Indian

_____ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

_____ Alaska Native

Is the nominee a U.S. citizen? _____ Yes _____ No

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 oardc.ohio-state.edu/competitions