

Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program Scholarship Application

The Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program (GDFP) is designed to direct aid to graduate/professional students who have demonstrated academic achievement and overcome a disadvantage or other impediment to success in higher education. Candidates will contribute to the diversity of the student body by demonstrating their commitment to facilitating and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in their academic programs and/or activities.

Program Eligibility

To participate in the GDFP, candidates are required to:

1. Be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and
2. demonstrate how they have overcome a disadvantage or other impediment to success in higher education. Candidates must also demonstrate a commitment to contributing to the diversity of the student body by facilitating and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in their academic programs and campus activities.

Even though financial need is not a requirement for program eligibility, applicants may utilize economic disadvantage as a basis for eligibility.

Preference will be given to candidates who are:

From a low-income background (e.g., Pell-eligible as undergraduates), were first-generation college students (students whose parents have not earned a bachelor's degree), have overcome adversity, are AmeriCorps alumni, or are veterans.

The Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program (GDFP) is open to any and all prospective candidates regardless of race, color, national origin, or sex, and is consistent with all current governing federal and state nondiscrimination law. All application submissions will be assessed and evaluated in accordance with the required eligibility criteria.

Application Procedures:

The application form and short essay should be completed and sent to: Katherina Searing, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, SUNY ESF, 227 Bray Hall – 1 Forestry Drive, Syracuse, NY, 13210-2787 or to kbsearing@esf.edu. To be given full consideration completed applications must be received by September 13 for Fall semester and by December 1 for Spring semester, contingent on the availability of funds.

The Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Student Name:

Student ID (If applicable):

Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Citizenship Status (Required)

US Citizen: Yes [☐] No [☐] Permanent Resident: Yes [☐] No [☐]

To participate in the GDFP, candidates are required to:

1. Be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status;
2. Demonstrate how they have overcome a disadvantage or other impediment to success in higher education; and
3. Demonstrate a commitment to contributing to the diversity of the student body by facilitating and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in their academic programs and/or campus activities.

Please check any of the preference criteria that may apply to you: (Optional)

Please also describe how each of the preference categories chosen below is applicable to you and your related experience thereof. (Required if any preference categories are selected)

___ From a low-income background:

___ Pell Eligible as undergraduate:

___ First generation college student: _____

___ Have overcome adversity: _____

___ An AmeriCorps Alumni:

____ Veteran of the U.S. armed services: _____

____ Current SUNY student, alumni or fellows: _____

Short Essay: *In 600 words or less, please respond to the following essay prompt:* (Required)

“Please describe how you’ve engaged, facilitated, and/or enhanced diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in your campus and/or local community. Examples could include personal, academic, and/or work experience and may include, but is not limited to, student’s potential to contribute to enhancing diversity efforts in their academic programs at SUNY and campus communities; experiences overcoming economic, social, educational disadvantages, and/or other barriers.”