you belong at Cornell
why
Cornell

Generous financial support
Commitment to student success
Opportunities that span the globe
Preparation for your future career
Vibrant college town with a caring community
graduate students are central to cornell’s mission of research and a valued part of the greater cornell community.

welcome to cornell

as a pharmacology graduate student, sachi horibata works on cancer biology, with a focus on breast cancer. she recently presented her dissertation research during cornell’s three minute thesis competition and was named the winner.

horibata also volunteers at the cancer resource center for the finger lakes. “i want to do good science that i trust and truly believe in, and that can help the development of new, precise treatments for cancer patients.”

she chose cornell because during a prospective visit, she noticed that all of her department’s faculty members had carefully read her application materials. “this detail made me believe that professors at cornell truly care about students and that’s why i decided to come here.”

—sachi horibata, doctoral student in pharmacology
Minimum offer for research degrees:

$48,512
TOTAL OFFER AMOUNT

How this breaks down:

$25,152
minimum
NINE-MONTH STIPEND

$20,800
minimum
ANNUAL TUITION
for a research degree*

$2,560
HEALTH INSURANCE
annual individual coverage

* Tuition varies by field and degree. Visit gradschool.cornell.edu/tuition for a complete list of tuition by field. All rates are from 2016–2017.

CORNELL CURRENTLY FUNDS 96% OF OUR ON-CAMPUS DOCTORAL STUDENTS

IF YOU ARE A DOCTORAL STUDENT
your offer will contain a competitive funding package that includes:
• Tuition
• Fees
• Health insurance
• Living allowance or stipend

understanding your offer
Funding for Research Degrees
Cornell currently funds 96% of our on-campus doctoral students and 78% of our research-oriented master’s degree students.

Many of our students receive National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, Fulbright, and other prestigious awards in addition to a significant number of research training grants and national training grants administered by faculty.

The terms of your award may vary by field of study. For additional information, please contact your field.

Assistantships
Your letter may include an assistantship. Assistantships are a type of financial support that include teaching and/or research to advance your education and the university’s academic mission.

Students on assistantships receive stipend checks twice a month beginning in August provided they maintain good standing in their academic field and satisfactory performance in teaching and research assignments.

Fellowships
Your letter may contain details on a fellowship. Fellowships provide financial support to graduate students to pursue graduate studies without teaching or research responsibilities.

Students with fellowship support typically receive a lump sum at the beginning of each semester. Students on fellowships must maintain satisfactory progress toward the degree and remain in that field of study.

Duplicate Awards
Cornell does not allow students to hold both a major outside fellowship and a university award. If you have both, please contact your graduate field to discuss the arrangements.

Funding for Professional Degrees
Professional programs at Cornell provide limited financial assistance. The terms of the awards may vary by program. For more information, please contact your field of study.

Loans are available for U.S. citizens and permanent residents. For more information, please contact the Financial Aid Office at finaid@cornell.edu.

“...the faculty and students in my field are top-notch scholars and, more importantly, top-notch human beings. There’s a family environment where everyone is supportive, encouraging, and invested in one another’s intellectual and personal development. Ithaca is also an idyllic and affordable place in which to live. Finally, being part of the Cornell tradition—with access to some of the best libraries, museums, houses of worship, and personal health and fitness facilities in the country—is a big plus.”

— KYLE ANDERSON, doctoral student in Near Eastern studies
With $802 million in research funding, one of the 10 largest research libraries in North America, and 150 centers, institutes, laboratories, and programs, we support your research and scholarship, offering a range of opportunities from research travel grants to professional development programs.

CORNELL IS CONSISTENTLY RANKED in the top 20 BEST UNIVERSITIES IN THE WORLD.
Opportunities
At Cornell, we are committed to your academic success. In addition to academic support programs offered by the graduate fields, the Graduate School and our campus partners offer programs to help you succeed academically, professionally, and personally.

Sample programs:
Academic Support
• Thesis and dissertation boot camps, research skills

English Language Support
• Writing and speaking English, peer tutoring

Navigate Academia
• Fellowship writing workshops, transitioning to graduate school

Leadership and Management
• Summer success and Coleman symposia

Library
• Immersion programs, digital humanities

Statistical Computing Services
• Software tutorials and tutoring

Advanced Computing
• High performance computing tools and concepts

Research and Conference Grants
To offset the cost of research and conference travel, the Graduate School offers grants to provide the means for you to conduct research off campus or to present your research at a conference.

In 2015–2016 the Graduate School held 185 workshops and events with 8,413 participants and 573 hours of programming.
JIAI ZHANG
As a food science and technology graduate student, Jiai Zhang focuses on dairy chemistry and processing, with the aim of developing a snack made of milk and soy protein for the Asian market and studying how critical processing parameters affect the final product.

“It’s exciting for me to develop high-quality food products that respond to preferences and food production capabilities of different populations, and thus help feed the world. My career goal is to apply the knowledge I gain in my studies to improve people’s quality of life.”

Zhang decided to pursue her degree at Cornell because its food science program is one of the best in the world. “This department is well known for its knowledgeable and supportive faculty, strong industry network, and pilot-scale facilities.”

NIRAV PATEL
A graduate student in natural resources, Nirav Patel’s research is focused on renewable energy education. He uses environmental psychology and cognitive science within education domains to understand the environmental behaviors of K-12 educators and their students.

Patel has been involved with Cornell’s Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning, which awarded him a travel grant to present his research at a national conference.

He plans to continue working in academia after he receives his degree. “I hope to help train the next generation of community-engaged scholars focused on issues such as sustainable food, energy, and water.”
NADIA SASSO

Nadia Sasso is a graduate student in Africana studies. Her research explores the complex identity formations of young Africans living in America and West Africa who identify bi-culturally and how they wrestle with concepts of race, complexion, gender, and heritage, among other issues. She studies film, fashion, and new media to gain insight into this topic.

“I chose Cornell because of its support of my hybrid creative process, which allows me to combine my academic interests with my work in film, multimedia, and social media.”

Sasso hopes to take her film “Am I: Too African to be American, Too American to be African” on the road to generate discourse, which she says will inform her dissertation.

AMANDA BARES

As a graduate student in biomedical engineering (BME), Amanda Bares develops non-linear optical instrumentation for visualizing cells and cell dynamics in living animal models of normal and disease physiology. She has developed a hyperspectral multiphoton microscope, for which she was awarded a Commercialization Fellowship to explore the marketing possibilities of this tool.

“I decided to go to Cornell because BME offered flexibility in choosing a research lab and a program catered to each student’s background. There’s also a true spirit of collaboration here, something that wasn’t as apparent at other universities I considered.”

NICK FESEtte

Theatre arts graduate student Nick Fesette’s work focuses on incarceration studies and prison theatre in the United States. “I’m especially interested in the body as it works within and struggles against constraints, survives duress, makes choices, circumvents challenges, and stages resistance.”

As part of his studies, Fesette volunteers with theater professor Bruce Levitt at Auburn Correctional Facility, working closely with the incarcerated men who make up the Phoenix Players Theatre Group.

Fesette says Dr. Levitt and the rest of the Cornell theater faculty were why he chose to attend Cornell. “These are some of the most dynamic and brilliant people in the field, who really challenge their students.”

HAUTAHI KINGI

Economics graduate student Hautahi Kingi’s work focuses on two distinct topics within macroeconomics. The first investigates how migrants affect the well-being of native-born workers, while the second topic concerns automatic stabilizers, which are built-in features of the economy that dampen the business cycle by absorbing changes in income.

Kingi also writes about income distribution in his home country of New Zealand, and the implications for the indigenous people of Maori, NZ.

“I chose Cornell because of its reputation for having extremely clever people—a reputation which I found to be very well deserved.”
We prepare you for your future. Whether you are headed for a career in industry or one in higher education, we have programs designed to help you reach your goals, including job search discussions, informational seminars, and hands-on workshops.
Getting to Graduation

Our time-to-degree is one of the shortest in our peer group and far shorter than the national average. This means that as a Cornell graduate student, you would likely spend a shorter number of years working toward your degree than would your peers at other universities—allowing you more time to focus on your desired career path.

Cornell has structures to help you make timely progress on your degree, such as writing support programs; milestone reminders; various mentoring and other skill-development workshops for doctoral students and faculty; and myriad life skills programming, including events where students share pizza and conversation about everything from sleep and time management to the top 10 skills for success.

Career Outcomes

We asked alumni who graduated between two and 20 years ago to tell us about their careers.

- Cornell alumni work in over 56 countries, and more than half work in education
- More than half of alumni with physical sciences and engineering degrees work outside of education
- Top five employers of Cornell alumni: Cornell University, Google, Intel, National Taiwan University, Harvard University

PhDivas

As friends and scholars, doctoral students Elizabeth (Liz) Wayne and Christine (Xine) Yao found common ground amid their academic and cultural differences through a mutual fascination with myriad topics, from pop culture to how to survive in academia. And now, they discuss them for a worldwide audience every week.

The African-American cancer scientist from Mississippi and the Chinese-Canadian literary critic/English scholar from Toronto first met when they were both graduate resident fellows at Hans Bethe House. Talking and laughing together during house dinners, they were soon joined by a gaggle of interested undergraduates.

Last spring, they were inspired to make the discourse public and launched a podcast that has found listeners in six countries.

On “PhDivas,” they share issues of academic life, contemporary culture, and society in conversations that bridge the STEM-humanities divide. They often discuss the “similarities, differences and difficulties” they observe in their experiences, including challenges facing women and young scholars.

The audio podcast, available on Soundcloud and iTunes, is serious in intent but not in tone. In a given week, the hosts cover a range of topics, from studying what you love to perceived gender bias in the disciplines to offering graduate students advice to sharing their adoration of pop diva Nicki Minaj.

The hosts say they hope to inspire future doctoral students and encourage a dialogue across disciplines, while providing a niche for fellow students to talk about the Ph.D. experience.
Cornell is more than a place.

It’s a community intimate enough that you can run into friends at the grocery store, but large enough to support 7,200 graduate and professional students and more than 1,000 student clubs.

Here, you will develop friendships and partnerships, often outside your field, that will last a lifetime.

A genuine sense of camaraderie—particularly between faculty and students—fosters collaboration and community. Supportive staff members help guide you through your life at Cornell.

Ithaca is consistently named among the BEST COLLEGE TOWNS by Travel + Leisure, Best College Reviews, and The American Institute of Economic Research.
Ithaca has a bustling social scene with dozens of bars and restaurants, music venues, theaters, and one of the best farmers’ markets in the country.

The newly renovated Commons, an open-air pedestrian mall that’s at the center of the town’s dining, shopping, and entertainment scene, hosts events like the Downtown Ithaca Apple Harvest Festival and the Great Downtown Ithaca Chili Cook-Off.

Ithaca even has its own winery, Six Mile Creek Vineyard, one of 16 wineries, one cidery, one meadery, and four distilleries along Cayuga Lake, which Cornell’s campus overlooks.

The lake and surrounding gorges offer great spots for activities like kayaking, hiking, jogging, swimming, or simply taking in the beautiful scenery, which includes more than 100 waterfalls.

There are many hangouts on Cornell’s campus, including cafés, coffee shops, and food trucks.

The Big Red Barn Graduate and Professional Student Center is located in the geographic center of our campus. With events ranging from a weekly happy hour to teaching assistant grading breaks, the Big Red Barn is the heart of the graduate and professional student experience.

Signature events: TGIF Happy Hour, Chocolate Tasting, Super Bowl Party, Faculty / Student Wine and Cheese, Pumpkin Carving, Year End BBQ

Living in Ithaca is AFFORDABLE

Housing prices in other college towns and cities compared to Ithaca:
- Philadelphia: 13% higher
- Portland: 23% higher
- Seattle: 32% higher
- Boston: 36% higher
- San Francisco Bay area: 67% higher
- New York City: 115% higher
(source: bankrate.com)
Council of Graduate Schools Resolution Regarding Graduate Scholars, Fellows, Trainees, and Assistants

Acceptance of an offer of financial support (such as a graduate scholarship, fellowship, traineeship, or assistantship) for the next academic year by a prospective or enrolled graduate student completes an agreement that both student and graduate school are expected to honor. In that context, the conditions affecting such offers and their acceptance must be defined carefully and understood by all parties.

Students are under no obligation to respond to offers of financial support prior to April 15; earlier deadlines for acceptance of such offers violate the intent of this resolution. If in those instances a student accepts an offer before April 15, and subsequently desires to withdraw that acceptance, the student may submit in writing a resignation of the appointment at any time through April 15. However, an acceptance given or left in force after April 15 commits the student not to accept another offer without first obtaining a written release from the institution to which a commitment has been made. Similarly, an offer by an institution after April 15 is conditional on presentation by the student of the written release from any previously accepted offer. It is further agreed by the institutions and organizations subscribing to the above resolution that a copy of this resolution should accompany every scholarship, fellowship, traineeship, and assistantship offer.

A list of other universities that are signatories to the charter is available at www.cgsnet.org.

Accept Cornell’s offer of admission online at www.gradschool.cornell.edu/response
Resources for New Students

New Students Office
newstudents.cornell.edu

New graduate students can find important information and checklists to help you transition to Cornell. The site becomes live in April of each year. You will not be able to sign in to track your progress until you have accepted your admission offer and activated your netid, but you can see all offices and requirements without signing in.

Gannett Health Services
www.gannett.cornell.edu

Gannett Health Services is an accredited ambulatory health care facility and primary care medical provider with services for all students. Services including medical, counseling and psychological services, physical therapy, and health education. Student spouses, same-sex partners, and children over the age of 14 are also eligible for medical care at Gannett.

Student Health Plan (SHP)
studenthealthbenefits.cornell.edu

The Student Health Plan, developed especially for Cornell students, is reviewed annually by a committee of students, faculty, and staff members. The plan meets or exceeds all F-1 and J-1 visa requirements, as well as all health insurance standards developed by the American College Health Association. The university pays the premium for all graduate students registered with the Graduate School who are receiving full tuition and a full stipend from or through Cornell. SHP participants can enroll dependents in the plan for an additional fee.

Students with Disabilities
www.sds.cornell.edu

Information shared by a student about his or her disability is confidential and is not shared with any academic department or unit. Staff in the Student Disability Services Office can confidentially answer your questions about services, documentation requirements, and campus accessibility.

International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO)
www.isko.cornell.edu

Information, assistance and referrals for international students on a range of issues including: immigration, housing, finances, cultural adjustment, and personal and social situations.

Graduate School Offices

Deans Office
dean_gradschool@cornell.edu

- Establish policies and vision, provide resources, and oversee governance
- Resolve conflicts and administer grievance procedures
- Foster communication with and about the graduate student community

Academic and Student Affairs
gradacad_assoc_dean@cornell.edu

- Academic policy, programs, and student support
- Academic integrity/misconduct; responsible conduct of research; and grievances
- Responsible conduct of research
- Petitions requesting exceptions to graduate school policy (Code of Legislation)
- Academic support programs (writing and fellowship applications)

CU-CIRTL
cu-cirtl@cornell.edu

- Teaching and future faculty programs
- Research mentoring certificates
- Online courses through Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning (CIRTL) Network

Graduate Student Life
janna.lamey@cornell.edu

- Assistance in navigating your program and resources for academic support
- Referrals to on- and off-campus services
- Support for personal development and other student concerns
- Balance and resilience programs (health/wellness, time management, etc.)

Inclusion and Student Engagement
grad.assoc.dean@cornell.edu

- Diversity recruitment and Graduate School Ambassador Program
- Diversity fellowships and Dean’s Scholars Program
- Professional, leadership, and community development programming
- Ongoing mentoring and support for current students

Student Services
gradstudserv@cornell.edu

- Admissions
- Fellowships and funding
- Registrar
- Student records
Diversity and inclusion are a part of Cornell University’s heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.