You Belong at Cornell 2022-23

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 research mission and a valued part of the greater Cornell community. Welcome to Cornell.

Anthonia Carter

Field: Information science

Degree: Ph.D.

Research area: Investigates how the position of an online ranking creates bias in crowdfunding platforms.

Why Cornell? “I am a creative misfit – a mathematician, artist, designer, scholar, and community builder. The field of information science at Cornell was the first academic department where I felt comfortable embracing my whole identity as an interdisciplinary scholar. Here, I am encouraged to explore my intellectual curiosity, blending the analytical and creative aspects of my individuality.”

Understanding Your Offer

Cornell currently funds 100 percent of our on-campus doctoral students.

If you are a doctoral student, your offer will contain a competitive funding package that includes:

- Tuition
- Health insurance
- Living allowance or stipend

Minimum offer for doctoral degrees: $52,589 total offer amount.

How this breaks down:
• $28,654 minimum nine-month stipend
• $20,800 minimum annual tuition for a research degree (tuition varies by field and degree. Visit gradschool.cornell.edu/tuition for a complete list of tuition by field. All rates are from 2021-2022).
• $3,135 health insurance annual individual coverage.

Funding for Research Degrees

Cornell currently funds 95 percent of our on-campus doctoral students. The remaining 5 percent are supported by other funds that include foreign aid, external awards paid directly to the student, and personal monies.

Many of our students receive National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships, Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowships, 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.

Cornell is in the top five universities in National Science Foundation research funding.

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.

Gustavo Alvarez

Field: Mechanical engineering

Degree: Ph.D.

Research area: Using continuous wave lasers, Alvarez investigates heat transfer semiconductors to discover new material combinations that can survive harsh environments, such as those found on space probes, and improve photovoltaic batteries on earth.

Why Cornell? “On a campus visit as a high school student, the rigor of the research and the prestige of the faculty enthralled me. I also fell in love with the campus—the sunsets below the clock tower and waterfalls streaming through campus. I vowed to return.”

Support for Research and Scholarship

With $1.13 billion 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 (Times Higher Education World University Rankings).

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.

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 Symposium, Colman Leadership Program

Library
- Immersion programs, digital humanities

Statistical Computing Services
- Software tutorials and tutoring

Advanced Computing
- High performance computing tools and concepts

Cornell has one of the 10 largest research libraries in North America.

The Graduate School held 300 workshops and events with 6,057 participants, 447 hours of programming.

Student Experience

Our graduate student population is global and diverse.

Jianxin Huo

Field: Public health

Degree: Master of public health

Research area: Investigates public health systems and nutrition and studies how we can develop better food and nutrition programs in local communities to help individuals make healthier and more sustainable food choices.

Why Cornell? “As an undergraduate, I found my home at Cornell. I have built deep connections to Cornell faculty and staff who have supported me all along, especially during the pandemic.”
Cornell is a leader in food and nutrition research. Besides, Ithaca is such a beautiful place to stay.”

**Samantha Bolten**

Field: Food science and technology

Degree: Ph.D.

Research area: Investigates the ability of Listeria to become resistant to sanitizers in the hope of developing improved sanitation strategies in food processing environments.

Why Cornell? “During my visitation weekend, a large ice storm prevented our group from leaving the hotel and visiting campus. Members of the food science community swiftly coordinated a back-up plan and held prospective students’ interviews in the hotel’s restaurant. This event ended up swaying my decision in favor of Cornell because I was so impressed with the strong sense of community and supportive collaboration among the faculty and students.”

**Ben Fried**

Field: English language and literature

Degree: Ph.D.

Research area: Studies the networks linking writers, readers, and publishing institutions across the Anglophone world.

Why Cornell? “I chose Cornell for its Department of Literatures in English—one of the finest in the country and the world—and for its literary pedigree in general. Toni Morrison, Vladimir Nabokov, Thomas Pynchon, and plenty of others have all lain down in the Arts Quad with a book, just like you and me. My grandfather came to Cornell to study architecture as a teenager during the Depression, a connection across time that comes alive for me whenever I find myself in sight of Sibley Hall or strolling down the Slope.”

**Andrea Robinson**

Field: Biomedical and biological sciences

Degree: Ph.D.

Research area: Investigates how Vitamin D deficiencies influence the immune system’s ability to produce antibodies against certain viruses.

Why Cornell? “I chose to pursue my Ph.D. at Cornell because of both its commitment to increasing diversity and the strong sense of community I felt during my interview. Additionally,
I was amazed by Cornell’s many great principal investigators working on impactful research. I yearned to be part of Cornell research.”

**Charlotte Logan**

Field: Linguistics  
Degree: Ph.D.  
Research area: Research and document Haudenosaunee languages, which are now critically endangered.

Why Cornell? “I chose Cornell because it was in the Haudenosaunee homelands, and I did not have to leave my speaker community or family to have access to an excellent education. I also knew that Cornell had the American Indian and Indigenous Studies Program, which means that I would also have access to a support network of fellow students, staff, and faculty.”

**Ngoc Truong**

Field: Geological sciences  
Degree: Ph.D.  
Research area: Studies the geophysical evolution of planetary bodies in the solar system and beyond to understand which conditions make them habitable (or not).

Why Cornell? “Cornell has a tradition of faculty/staff/student involvement with spacecraft missions as well as strong connections between geology and astronomy with many notable planetary scientists and astrophysicists such as Carl Sagan, Edwin Salpeter, etc. As an earth and atmospheric sciences student working in the Space Sciences building, I enjoy interesting discussions with other grad student friends in both fields. They are smart and usually ask questions that help me learn something new.”

**Preparing for Your Future**

91 percent of alumni would pursue a doctoral degree at Cornell again.

Graduate education is more than coursework, research, and scholarship.

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 programs designed to help you navigate all aspects of graduate school, including writing boot camps, leadership programs, and workshops discussing topics relating to mental health and wellness. The Pathways to Success Program provides a holistic approach to professional and personal development.

**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

**Building Mentoring Skills**

Graduate students work hard to perfect their curricula vitae and resumes, teaching and research statements, and cover letters as they look toward their future careers. At Cornell’s Graduate School, one professional development workshop focuses on helping graduate students become better mentors, a useful skill for academic or non-academic careers.

This workshop series, Building Mentoring Skills, helps graduate students develop effective communication and mentorship skills essential not only to their future careers, but also in their current roles.

Students explore their mentoring philosophies, communication and conflict resolution skills, and awareness of diverse student needs as they read case studies and discuss mentoring techniques.

To Anna Walis, Ph.D. ‘20 in plant pathology and microbe biology, mentoring represented a large part of her responsibilities as a Ph.D. student, and she hopes to be in a position to mentor others in her future career.

“While I’ve had the opportunity to work with many students in both classroom and lab settings, I have never had any formal training in mentorship,” she said. “I’ve had several incredible mentors in my academic career, and I hope to have a positive impact on future scientists.”

Similarly, Lauren Genova, Ph.D. ‘20 in chemistry and chemical biology, found that the workshop was helpful for those pursuing careers outside of academia.

“The skills and resources I gained are invaluable to any career path – and will help you out tremendously in your current role.”
This workshop is one of 300 professional development opportunities available through the Graduate School’s Pathways to Success, a suite of academic, career, personal, and professional development offerings designed to help students navigate academia, develop a plan, and prepare for their future careers.

**Enjoying the Community**

Ithaca is consistently named among the best college towns by Travel + Leisure, Best College Reviews, and The American Institute of Economic Research.

**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 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 percent higher
- Portland: 23 percent higher
- Seattle: 32 percent higher
- Boston: 36 percent higher
- San Francisco Bay area: 67 percent higher
- New York City: 115 percent higher
(Source: bankrate.com)

Where are we?
Ithaca is:
- 5 hours from Montreal
- 5.5 hours from Boston
- 4 hours from New York City
- 4 hours from Philadelphia
- 6 hours from Washington, DC
- 3 hours from Niagara Falls
- 4.5 hours from Toronto

Learn more at www.visitithaca.com.

Respond to Your Offer

2,225 new graduate and professional student enrollments.

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.

**Cornell Health**
health.cornell.edu

Cornell Health Services is an accredited ambulatory health care facility and primary care medical provider with services for all students. Services include medical, counseling and psychological services, physical therapy, and health education.

**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. SHP participants can enroll dependents in the plan for an additional fee.

**Students with Disabilities**
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 Services Office of Global Learning**
international.globallearning.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

Dean’s 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
- Petitions requesting exceptions to policy
- Academic support programs

Careers Beyond Academia
gradcareers@cornell.edu
- Graduate student career awareness
- Experiential career exploration
- Workplace skill development

Future Faculty and Academic Careers
futurefaculty@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 student concerns
- Balance and resilience programs

Inclusion and Student Engagement
grad_assoc_dean@cornell.edu
- Diversity recruitment and Ambassador Program
- Diversity fellowships and Dean’s Scholars Program
- Professional, leadership, and community development
- Ongoing mentoring and support for current students
**Student Services**

gradstudserv@cornell.edu

- Admissions, fellowships, and funding
- Registrar and student records

**Cornell Graduate School**

Diversity and inclusion are a part of Cornell University’s heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.