

Consider**Cornell**

Graduate School Fellowships in Support of Diversity

There are several graduate recruitment fellowships in support of diversity for incoming doctoral students, including:

- Graduate School Deans Excellence Fellowship — for recruitment of new research degree students across all graduate fields
- SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship—for recruitment of new research degree students in graduate fields within contract colleges (open only to U.S. citizens and permanent residents)
- Deans McNair and McNair SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowships — for recruitment of new research degree students who were McNair Scholars at their undergraduate institutions.
- Deans Mellon Mays and Mellon Mays SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowships — for recruitment of new research degree students who were Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellows at their undergraduate institutions.
- Cornell Colman, Lance R. Collins, and Robert F. Smith Fellowships (College of Engineering) — for recruitment of new research degree students in engineering-related fields
- Cornell Bowers Computing & Information Science (CIS) Deans Excellence and Hopper-Dean Fellowships — for recruitment of new research degree students based in Ithaca in computing-related fields.
- College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) Stadtman Fellowship — for recruitment of new research degree students in fields affiliated with academic departments in CALS.
- College of Human Ecology Deans Excellence Fellowship — for recruitment of new research degree students in fields affiliated with academic departments in CHE.
- Cornell Tech Deans Excellence Fellowship — for recruitment of new research degree students based at Cornell Tech in computing-related fields.
- College of Veterinary Medicine (CVM) Deans Excellence Fellowship — for recruitment of new research degree students in fields affiliated with academic departments in CVM.

Diversity Recruitment Fellowships are designed to advance the Graduate School's commitment to diversity, inclusion, equity, and especially, access. They are available on a competitive basis to nominated domestic students from all backgrounds applying for Fall admission who are U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, Indigenous peoples of Canada eligible to register as domestic students under the Jay Treaty, or students holding DACA, TPS, refugee, or asylee status who have

demonstrated commitment and potential to significantly contribute to Cornell's [core value](#) to provide a community of inclusion, belonging, and respect where scholars representing diverse backgrounds, perspectives, abilities, and experiences can learn and work productively and positively together.

Students who wish to be considered for these fellowships must indicate their interest in the Graduate School application. Students awarded a fellowship in support of diversity are recognized as [Graduate School Dean's Scholars](#) and invited to participate in community and professional activities sponsored by the Office of Inclusion and Student Engagement and its partners. Students awarded a Diversity Recruitment Fellowship may receive a standard offer of admission and subsequently be offered this competitive fellowship instead of a standard funding offer. Through the Personal Statement, applicants should address how their background and experiences influenced their decision and ability to pursue a graduate degree. Additionally, they should provide insights into their potential to contribute to Cornell University's core value to provide a community of inclusion, belonging, and respect where scholars representing diverse backgrounds, perspectives, abilities, and experiences can learn and work productively and positively together. Within the Personal Statement, applicants may also include relevant information on any of the following:

- How their personal, academic, and/or professional experiences demonstrate their ability to be both persistent and resilient especially when navigating challenging circumstances.
- How they engage with others and have facilitated and/or participated in productive teams.
- How they have come to understand the barriers faced by others whose experiences and backgrounds may differ from their own.
- If relevant, how their research interests focus on issues related to diversity, inclusion, access, inequality, and/or equity.
- Details on their service and/or leadership in efforts to advance diversity, inclusion, access, and equity, especially for those from backgrounds historically underrepresented and/or marginalized.
- Additional context on any significant barriers they have navigated to make graduate education accessible to them.
- Contextual details on any perceived gaps or weaknesses in their academic record.

Within the personal statement, applicants interested in being considered for nomination for a competitive Diversity Recruitment Fellowship should also provide details of lessons learned from any of their lived experiences including but not limited to

- being a first-generation college student or graduate (no parent/guardian completed a baccalaureate degree)
- racial, ethnic, and/or cultural background(s)
- managing a disability or chronic health condition
- experiencing housing, food, economic, and/or other forms of significant insecurity
- being a solo parent
- gender identity and/or sexual orientation
- having served in the military
- holding DACA, refugee, TPS, or asylee status

How to apply:

- Prospective students apply for Diversity Recruitment Fellowships through the Graduate School admissions application.
- To be considered for nomination for a Diversity Recruitment Fellowship, eligible applicants must respond “yes” to the question on the admissions application asking whether they would be interested in being considered for a Diversity Recruitment Fellowship.
- The director of graduate studies for the graduate field to which the applicant is applying must submit a letter of nomination and a mentoring plan to the Graduate School for consideration by the associate dean for inclusion and faculty and student engagement and the assistant dean for access and recruitment in the Graduate School.