

## Presidential Fellowship Guidelines – Fall 2021

The purpose of the Presidential Fellowship is to attract top-quality graduate students into doctoral degree programs at Florida International University. Students are awarded these Fellowships based on their potential to become outstanding scholars and future leaders in their disciplines.

For Fall 2021 admissions, presidential Fellows will have two options:

1. *Presidential Fellows receive a stipend of **\$30,000** for **four** years.* The University Graduate School (UGS) will provide the stipend, tuition waiver for 24 credits/year and health insurance for two of the four years of the fellowship. The fellow's graduate program is expected to provide an additional two years of funding support at the same level through a Teaching or Research Assistantship.
2. *Presidential Fellows receive a stipend of **\$25,000** for **two** years and a stipend at the GA rate for **two** years.* The UGS will provide the stipend, tuition waiver for 24 credits/year and health insurance for two of the four years of the fellowship. The fellow's graduate program is expected to provide an additional two years of funding support through a Teaching or Research Assistantship at the GA rate. **In addition, Presidential Fellows will receive two years of housing at The One.**

During the two years of support from UGS, there are no teaching obligations on the part of the recipient. During the third and fourth year of support from the unit, the student is expected to have responsibilities consistent with the nature of the support, which may be either teaching or research assistantship.

### EVALUATION CRITERIA:

- Outstanding GPA
- Other evidence of likelihood of outstanding future performance as a scholar
- Mentor's scholarly productivity and track record as an outstanding mentor to students and postdoctoral fellows. Part of the evidence will be obtained from the Annual Evaluation and Mentoring Plans submitted for previously advised students
- Excellent match between the student's research interest and the faculty's ongoing research program
- **GRE scores will be waived for Fall 2021 Presidential Nominations.**

### MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY:

- Undergraduate or graduate GPA is greater than or equal to 3.5.
- Student is not currently enrolled in a doctoral program at FIU.

**EXPECTATIONS:**

Presidential Fellows' time to receipt of degree will be at least one term less than the unit's average.

Presidential Awardees will have submitted at least one first-authored manuscript to a national peer-reviewed journal prior to graduation.

**CONDITIONS FOR ANNUAL CONTINUATION OF FELLOWSHIP:**

Presidential Award recipients will be subject to an annual review of academic and scholarly progress. The unit must forward the annual review to the University Graduate School prior to renewal of the award. The recipient must enroll full time (9 credits in fall, 9 credits in spring, and 6 credits in summer prior to candidacy) in the graduate program.

**NOMINATION PROCEDURE:**

Each doctoral degree-granting **program** may submit **unlimited nominations**. The programs *must* rank nominations. A nomination form is attached.

The unit must commit to the GA appointment equivalent to .50 FTE for two years at \$30,000 or the GA rate depending on the option the student chooses. Additional commitments made in the form of travel funds and/or research supplies will be viewed favorably by the evaluation committee.

Nomination form (attached) needs to be submitted with supporting documentation.

- To submit completed electronic nominations, UGS will provide a **unique** link to each Academic Program to upload nominations in the UGS One Drive.
- Please e-mail [ugsfellows@fiu.edu](mailto:ugsfellows@fiu.edu) to request your link, **do not** e-mail your nominations.
- Nominations should be uploaded as separate files.
- Hard copy submissions will not be accepted.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:**

1. A cover letter from the Graduate Program Director providing a justification for giving an award to this nominee. It should also include a list of publications for each Presidential recipient for the past 5 years (include pdf file of the page where fellowship was acknowledged).
2. A letter from the proposed mentor. This letter should describe the mentor's research interests and qualifications, including his/her record of obtaining external award funding as well as a short narrative of previous mentoring experience (include the



names of current and previously mentored graduate students, time to completion, research/academic productivity, and source of support for each).

3. Statement from the student describing any prior research and plans for future research (It can be same statement used in the PhD application).
4. Up to three letters of recommendation (They can be same letters used in the PhD application). If soliciting letters specifically for this application, please ask references to indicate if the student is in the top 1%, 5% or 10% of all students recommended for graduate school. If the letter of recommendation comes via e-mail, please print out the e-mail message with the header showing the attached file.
5. Presidential fellowship nominee's resume/CV

#### **TIMELINE:**

**Friday, February 19, 2021**

Deadline for Graduate Program Director to submit completed electronic applications using unique link provided by UGS.

**Week of Monday, March 15, 2021**

Selection Committee meets to make award recommendations.

**Week of Monday, March 22, 2021**

The UGS notifies departments of awards and sends official letter to all applicants.

Contact Information – For further information or assistance, please contact Claudia Balzán at [cbalzan@fiu.edu](mailto:cbalzan@fiu.edu) or 305-348-2604.

## 2021 Presidential Fellowship Nomination Form

<b>Nominee's Name (Last, First, Middle)</b>		<b>Panther ID</b>	<b>Department/School</b>		<b>Ranking by Department</b>				
<b>Nominee's Academic Performance</b> GPA Overall Undergraduate GPA _____ GPA in Undergrad Major coursework _____ GPA in Grad Coursework (if any) _____			<b>Test Percentile Scores</b>	<b>GRE Verbal %</b>	<b>GRE Quant %</b>	<b>GMAT Verbal%</b>	<b>GMAT Quant %</b>		
			<b>Nominee's Percentile Scores</b>						
<b>All Post-Secondary Education Name of Institution</b>		<b>Dates of Attendance</b>		<b>Major</b>		<b>Degree and Year Earned</b>			
		<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>						
<b>Fellowship Nomination</b> UGS provides full funding for any two of the four years and the unit provides a 20-hour GA contract (0.5 FTE) for two additional years at the GA- rate or \$30,000 depending on the option the student chooses. Please indicate which years the student will be supported by your unit on a 20-hour GA contract (0.5 FTE): _____									
<b>Supplemental Unit Support</b> Please indicate the annual amount provided by the unit for research supplies, travel, etc. to the nominee (universities competing for these same students typically include such funds in their offer): \$ _____									
<b>Fellowship Type:</b> Please indicate which option the student prefers if awarded the Presidential Fellowship: Option 1: Fellowship providing a \$30,000 stipend for 4 years (no housing) Option 2: Fellowship at a reduced stipend of \$25,000 for 2 years and at the GA rate for two years, plus housing at The One for two years									
<b>Endorsement</b> of the nomination indicates the unit's commitment to match UGS's support, such that the Fellow will receive a minimum stipend at the GA-rate or \$30,000 for four years.									
Chair Name:		Signature:			Date:				
Please Print									

**FIU Fellowship Committee  
PRESIDENTIAL RUBRIC**

Rubric for the Assessment of Performance

<b>LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT</b>							
	<b>Indicators of Performance</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2*</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4**</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Score</b>
1	<b>Academic Performance (highest GPA)</b>	3.5 ≤ GPA ≤ 3.59	3.6 ≤ GPA ≤ 3.69	3.7 ≤ GPA ≤ 3.79	3.8 ≤ GPA ≤ 3.89	GPA ≥ 3.90	(x10)
3	<b>Previous research experience</b>	Good Performance No previous research experience and no publications		Very Good Performance Some previous research experience and one publication		Excellent Performance Considerable previous research experience and more than one publication	(x20)
4	<b>Major advisor scholarly productivity</b>	Mentor does not have current external funding and/or limited number of recent publications		Mentor has some current external funding and/or moderate number of recent publications		Mentor has extensive current funding and/or large number of recent publications	(x10)
5	<b>Major advisor mentoring experience</b>	Major advisor has not mentored any graduate students successfully		Major advisor has mentored at least one graduate student successfully		Major advisor has mentored many graduate students successfully	(x10)
6	<b>Match between major advisor and student research interest</b>	No clear match between major advisor and student research interests		Reasonable match between major advisor and student research interests		Very clear match between major advisor and student research interests	(x10)
7	<b>Letters of recommendation</b>	One or more good letters of recommendation		One or more very good letters of recommendation		One or more outstanding letters of recommendation	(x20)
8	<b>Overall Impression</b>	Good		Very Good		Excellent	(x20)
<b>Total</b>							

\*Exhibits most characteristics of '1' and some of '3'

\*\*Exhibits most characteristics of '3' and some of '5'

## **2021 Presidential Fellowship Checklist**

### **Supporting documentation to be included with nomination:**

Nomination Form

Cover letter from the Graduate Program Director

Letter from the proposed mentor

Student's personal statement

Additional letters of recommendation (up to three)

Student's resume/ CV