

Latin American and Caribbean Graduate Fellowship Guidelines and Procedures 2021-2022

The Latin American and Caribbean Graduate Fellowship program is designed to promote international education and research between FIU and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The University Graduate School will oversee the administration of this program in coordination with Academic Affairs and participating academic units. **International students** who meet the program criteria may be nominated by their graduate program based on merit. The nomination process occurs once a year prior to the beginning of the Fall semester. Awards include a \$1,000 annual stipend and a tuition rate reduction to in-state for the academic year. To participate in this program, academic units must provide either the full \$1,000 stipend or half of the stipend and request a \$500 match from Academic Affairs contingent on available funding.

Student Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be an international student (no U.S. citizenship or permanent residency)
- Must be a resident of Latin America or the Caribbean (including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands)
- Must be **fully admitted** to a graduate degree program (Master's or Doctoral)
- Must be in good academic standing with an overall graduate GPA of 3.0 or better
- Must be enrolled full-time (9 graduate credits in Fall, 9 graduate credits in Spring, 6 graduate credits in Summer)
- Cannot be supported on a graduate assistantship (GA, TA nor RA)

Fellowship Details:

- Awards are made at the beginning of the academic year beginning with the **Fall** semester only.
- Awardees receive a \$1,000 annual stipend (Awarded in two installments, \$500 in Fall and \$500 in Spring)
- Awardees receive a tuition rate adjustment to the current in-state/resident rate (Courses in market-rate or self-supporting programs are not eligible for the adjustment).
- Maximum length of award: 2 years for master's students; 4 years for doctoral students (Awards are granted each academic year via the nomination process)

Application process:

- Units identify eligible students and submit LAC Nomination Form to UGS
- UGS verifies eligibility and sends request for matching funds to Academic Affairs
- Once approved, students are notified by email which includes the award letter and an acceptance form
- Students must complete the acceptance form and submit by the deadline indicated on the form
- Once the signed acceptance form has been received by UGS, the student's tuition will be adjusted to in-state and the stipend will be disbursed within the first week of the term

Deadline:

Nomination forms must be submitted to UGS via e-mail (ugsfellows@fiu.edu) by no later than **Friday, March 26, 2021**. For further information or assistance, please contact Claudia Balzán at cbalzan@fiu.edu or 305-348-2604.