

Public Impact Fellowships

Submit to your Graduate Coordinator by: October 11, 2023

Public Impact Fellowships highlight and support doctoral and MFA students whose current research has the potential for substantial impact in the public sphere. Ideal candidates will be involved in research designed to significantly improve or enrich the lives of Californians and/or national and global communities.

Award Amount

\$11,000 (distinguished fellow full award) or \$1,000 (honorable mention award) to be used as a stipend. All schools are eligible to nominate students to compete for a total of fifteen fellowships. Each of the five full awardees will receive \$11,000. Each of the ten honorable mention awardees will receive \$1,000. Students may choose to accept the award during Winter 2024 or Spring 2024, or over both quarters, at their discretion.

Eligibility Criteria

Nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Have a minimum graduate-level UCI GPA of 3.7
2. Be a current, full-time doctoral or MFA student.
3. If a doctoral student, be advanced to candidacy for the Ph.D. by October 20, 2023.
4. Conduct research that has critical public impact. (Examples of relevant research include studies that aim to improve economic opportunity and well-being, health care, social justice, political participation, cultural engagement, and scientific or technical solutions to pressing social issues.)
5. Be willing to have research spotlighted/featured on both the Graduate Division's and UCI's website, brochures and social networks, and be able and available to effectively communicate and discuss their research in lay terms with prospective donors, legislators and/or their staff, and the media during Winter and Spring quarters.
6. **If selected as a finalist, students must be available to give a brief presentation** (via Zoom) to the selection committee, with no visual aids, immediately followed by a brief interview. These presentations and interviews will take place **on November 13, 2023**.

Application Materials

- A completed, signed [UCI Public Impact Fellowship Nomination Form](#) (Completed by your Graduate Coordinator/Advisor)
- A completed, signed [UCI Public Impact Student Information Form](#) (Completed by student)
- A current CV
- Letter of recommendation from your primary faculty advisor/PI

Stipulations

- Students should review the terms of any funding that they have accepted for AY 2023-2024 to ensure that they are eligible to receive additional fellowship funding before applying.
- For students already receiving financial aid, acceptance of a Public Impact Fellowship may affect their overall financial need-based support package. In such cases, students are strongly encouraged to consult with the [UCI Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships](#).
- Previous Public Impact Fellowship winners (full awardees and honorable mentions) are not eligible for this year's competition.
- Please note that this fellowship does not include tuition and fees