

Dear Associate Deans,

We are pleased to announce the guidelines and processes for the University of California Hispanic Serving Institutions Doctoral Diversity Initiative's (UC-HSI DDI) new *UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship (PPPF)*. I know we have a number of great candidates for this! Please remember to get submissions in by the **January 30, 5:00pm** deadline.

UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship 2022-2023 Competition

Background

The University of California (UC) Office of the President launched the UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship (PPPF) as part of its Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) Doctoral Diversity Initiative (DDI) on September 30, 2019.

Program overview

The UC-Hispanic Serving Institutions Doctoral Diversity Initiative (UC-HSI DDI) aims to enhance pathways to the professoriate for underrepresented students from California Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs). There are resources to support a limited number of PhD students, who are California HSI alumni and have advanced to candidacy at UC, to foster their interest and preparation for the professoriate. Additional professional development support for underrepresented PhD students is also available to encourage and help equip them to consider careers in the professoriate.

Each UC Graduate Division will annually coordinate a process to identify and select **three PhD students** who have advanced to candidacy, by the time of selection, to be named *UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellows*.

Who is eligible to be named a fellow?

The program's goal is to enhance faculty pathways for historically underrepresented groups, particularly Chicanx/Latinx, African Americans, American Indians/Native Americans, Filipinx, and Pacific Islanders in all disciplines; women in STEM; and Asian Americans in the humanities and social sciences. The intent of the program is to provide fellowships for domestic historically underrepresented minorities from federally-designated [California HSIs](#). For purposes of this fellowship, AB540 students are eligible. International students are not eligible for this fellowship. Please note: if students were matriculated in HSIs that did not have the federal-designation at the time of attendance they are still considered eligible if the institution is listed on the [current list of federally-designated HSIs](#).

This Fellowship program is only available to UC doctoral students who are matriculated in academic PhD programs and have advanced to candidacy. MFA students are eligible given that the MFA is a terminal degree. Professional students (e.g. M.D., J.D.) are not eligible.

Master's en route: if a student did not earn a bachelor's degree from a California HSI, and was not enrolled in a master's program at a California HSI, but was awarded a master's degree en route to the PhD (at a UC HSI), that student should NOT be considered eligible for this fellowship. If a student was enrolled in and completed a master's degree at a California HSI (including a UC HSI), that student is eligible for the fellowship (regardless of whether or not the student completed a bachelor's degree at a California HSI). It is incumbent upon the graduate divisions to ensure that this guideline is followed. Beyond being contrary to the spirit of the Initiative, awarding the fellowship to a UC HSI student who earned a master's en route to a PhD but does not hold a bachelor's degree from a California HSI creates inequity for UC students, since not all PhD programs award a master's degree en route.

California Community Colleges: Effective January 2022, UCOP has expanded the eligibility of UC PPPF students to include those that transferred to UC from a federally-designated HSI California Community College. This change has been made to address the situation of students who transferred from HSI community colleges to non-HSI UC's who would previously have been disqualified, despite their relevant HSI community college experience. The program understands and values the preparation and experience that many URM scholars bring as transfers from the CCC system. In order to qualify, students must demonstrate substantive and significant participation at their HSI CCC by having completed at least 24 semester units (or quarter equivalent). All other criteria/requirements remain and must be met.

General guidelines

Support for individual selected fellows

- Each Graduate Division will name three (3) UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellows each spring (with the award applied the following academic year).
- Fellows must have advanced to candidacy prior to being selected for the fellowship.
- Fellows will receive a \$36,000 stipend for one academic year.
 - Departments/Programs/Schools will be expected to pay two quarters of the tuition+fees of the one year fellowship
 - Grad Division will contribute the remaining quarter.
- Graduate Divisions will also receive a \$10,000 grant to administer for each fellow for use during her/his PhD tenure for professional development opportunities that will expose, prepare and inspire them to pursue the professoriate. The funds do not need to be expended during the awarded year, they may be used by the fellows throughout the remainder of their degree programs.

Criteria for selecting fellows

- Must be exceptional students (as demonstrated by their research achievements).
- Must have received their bachelor's or master's degree (please see Master's definitions and criteria above) from a [California Hispanic Serving Institution](#) (CA HSI)—public or private. As of January 2022, students that transferred to UC from a federally-designated HSI California Community College are also eligible if the student completed 24 semester units (or quarter equivalent).
- Must have advanced to candidacy prior to being selected for the fellowship.

- Must have letters of support from Faculty Advisor(s) that address the student's performance and potential as an exceptional academic, and comment on the likelihood that the student will pursue a professoriate path after receiving their Ph.D.
- Must have a demonstrated record of advancing issues of inclusion, equity, and diversity; actively supporting underrepresented communities; and show commitment to pursuing these efforts throughout their career.

Selection Process

- Each School may submit one application to Graduate Division by **January 30, 2022 at 5:00pm.**
- Application materials:
 - Send a 1-2 page statement
 - Demonstrating record of advancing issues of inclusion, equity, and diversity; actively supporting underrepresented communities and commitment to pursuing these efforts throughout their career.
 - Lay-person accessible description of research project
 - CV
 - Most recent IDP or another short summary of professional plans for the student
 - Letter from faculty advisor(s)
 - Letter of support from Associate Dean advancing why this student above others in the School
 - Please submit all of the documents as one PDF file to fellowships@rgs.uci.edu.
 - For questions you may contact Celina Mojica, Director of Academic Initiatives (cmojica@uci.edu).