

#### THE GRADUATE EQUITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

#### Please submit application to: gradstudies@calstatela.edu by Monday, March 31, 2025

This program seeks to increase the diversity of students completing graduate degree programs at the CSU, encourages continuation toward doctoral programs, and promotes consideration of university faculty careers. It provides fellowships for economically disadvantaged CSU students who have had success in overcoming educational disadvantages and promotes faculty mentoring and research opportunities

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- Applications will be accepted from all students eligible for financial aid based on California State University criteria. The Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships will determine the amount of the fellowship (maximum \$1,000 per semester) based on the applicant's demonstrated financial need and availability of funds.
- Be a legal California resident or have an AB540 affidavit on file with your CSU campus;
- Be admitted to a CSU campus and to a graduate program as a classified or conditionally classified student;
- Complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or a California Dream Act Application (CADAA);
- Have financial need of at least \$1,000;
- Enrolled at least HALF time in Graduate Degree program.
- Demonstrate potential to succeed in graduate school and to complete a graduate degree program in no more than two years as evidenced by undergraduate coursework and letters of recommendation;
- Fellowship recipients must be enrolled as classified graduate students and must maintain satisfactory academic progress, which includes maintaining a minimum B (3.0) grade point average.

# **SELECTION CRITERIA**

- Applicants are evaluated based on their academic record, (including grades, courses enrolled, honors, etc.); two faculty recommendation letters and other information provided on the application form.
- Consideration is also given to the degree of underrepresentation in the national pool of graduate degree recipients in the applicant's field and to disabled applicants in all fields of study.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

Applicants must complete two separate required applications:

- A general academic application which requires two recommendation letters from faculty in the applicant's academic department or division.
- A Financial Aid Application which requires that the applicant file a "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" (FAFSA) or a California Dream Act Application (CADAA)
- Both applications must be submitted annually.

# **CONTINUING APPLICANTS**

- Continuing awardees must complete pages 1 and 2 of the GEF application including the signature field; however they do not need to provide new letters of recommendation and a new essay.
- They must provide updated unofficial transcripts.

# The GEF may only be awarded for two consecutive academic years.