

Summer Mentored Research Fellowship (SMRF) – Continuing Students

Amount	\$6,000 Summer Fellowship
Types of Funding Available	<p><u>Continuing Students</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">I. 150 fellowships campus-wide, funded 100% by Academic Planning and Budget (APB)II. 300 fellowships campus-wide, funded through matched APB funds (match rate is school-specific, depending on per capita gift fund availability in the School/Division) <p>Note: To qualify for matched APB funds, School/Division must use gift funds to match, defined as funds received from an external donor and classified in the financial system under the gifts and endowments fund group.</p>
Purpose	<p>To provide funding to continuing doctoral students during Summer 2021 in order to release them from outside UCLA employment and/or loan obligations that might delay progress in graduate study.</p> <p>Awardees should consider this fellowship to be their principal/primary summer activity.</p> <p>A specific objective of the program is to promote opportunities for doctoral students to work closely with a faculty mentor. General goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To facilitate a close mentee-faculty mentor relationship during the early stages of graduate education• To promote timely degree progress• To encourage creative scholarship and research productivity
Allocation Process	<p>Fellowships are allocated to Schools/Divisions based on a rolling three-year average number of doctoral admits.</p> <p>Deans have full flexibility in how to allocate the continuing student fellowships to programs and/or doctoral students.</p> <p>It is expected that the deans will allocate the fully-funded awards to programs with more limited access to gift funds and allocate the matched-funding awards to those with greater access to gift funds.</p> <p><u>For Continuing Students Only</u></p> <p>If a student declines offer, the award can be recycled and offered to another continuing student prior to the deadline for submitting the final awardee names. Unused awards may not be carried forward.</p>
Activation Terms	<p>Summer 2021</p> <p>No deferrals permitted.</p>
Program Dates	<p>Program start and end dates are based on the first and last day of summer as defined by the Registrar's Office.</p>

Pre-Award Forms and Deadlines

June 11 – Recommended student/mentor/department deadline for Research & Mentoring Plans and student funding information to be submitted to the Dean’s office. Final date of submission at the student/mentor/department level is determined by the Dean’s Office. Check with the Dean’s office accordingly.

June 18 – School/Division deadline to submit all required pre-award documents to the Graduate Division via BOX Folder. Required documents include SMRF Award Allocation and Activation Template for Continuing Students and (for students activating their fellowship) SMRF Research & Mentoring Plans for Continuing Students.

Once awardees are confirmed, School/Division/Department are strongly encouraged to process funding via the Graduate Online Fellowship Award Transmittal (GOFAT) interface prior to the June 18 School/Division deadline to insure timely release of Summer 2021 funding.

Activation Procedure

Dean’s Office: All documentation listed below must be submitted in order for the award to be activated. It is recommended that the Deans establish an earlier internal deadline for the documents to be completed in order to allow enough time for their staff to review for completion before submitting the documents to the Graduate Division via the BOX folder.

NOTE: Failure to submit all complete documents by the activation deadline will result in non-appropriation of the funds.

- SMRF Award Allocation and Activation Template for Continuing Students
- SMRF Research & Mentoring Plan for Continuing Students

Students: must complete and sign the SMRF Research & Mentoring Plan for Continuing Students describing the work they plan to accomplish and how it will advance their research and progress toward their degree.

Advisor/Mentor: must complete and sign the SMRF Research & Mentoring Plan for Continuing Students describing the mentoring relationship, how often they will meet with the student, how they will assist the student with their project, and what deliverables they expect to review.

Step By Step Process:

1. Student/Mentor/Department
 - a. Fill out SMRF Research & Mentoring Plan for Continuing Students
 - b. Submit to School/Division

2. School/Division
 - a. Fill out the SMRF Award Allocation and Activation Template for Continuing Students.
 - b. Confirm that SMRF Research & Mentoring Plans for Continuing Students have been received for all students activating funding.

- c. Submit both the SMRF Award Allocation and Activation Template for Continuing Students and SMRF Research & Mentoring Plans for Continuing Students to the “Summer Mentored Research Fellowship (SMRF) – Continuing Students” folder on BOX.

Post Award Deliverables

September 30 – Deadline for the Dean’s Office to verify completed documentation and upload to BOX the following completed documents:

Note: Failure to submit all completed documents by the deadline will result in non-appropriation of the funds.

- Annual Doctoral Student Funding Report for all doctoral students - This includes not only SMRF award recipients, but also doctoral students who did not receive any summer funding and those receiving other (non-SMRF) sources of summer funding.
- Completed Summer Degree Progress Form for each student who activated their fellowship (must have a matching Research & Mentoring Plan for each student).

Students: must complete and sign the Summer Degree Progress Form providing a brief summary of the progress made toward degree during the summer.

Advisor/Mentor: must review and sign Summer Degree Progress Form.

Funding

November 18 – Deadline for the Graduate Division to review all materials submitted by the Dean’s Office.

- SMRF Award Allocation and Activation Template for Continuing Students (data are consistent with information submitted in the annual funding report)
- Research & Mentoring Plan for each student who activated the fellowship (student must have a matching Summer Degree Progress Form)
- Annual Doctoral Continuing Student Funding Report for all doctoral continuing students (data are consistent with information submitted on the SMRF Award Allocation and Activation Template)
- Summer Degree Progress Form for each student who activated the fellowship (student must have a matching Research & Mentoring Plan)

For all Schools/Divisions who submitted a complete Annual Doctoral Continuing Student Funding Report, a Graduate Division Confirmation Report for Continuing Students will be prepared and submitted to APB with the names of the students who activated their fellowship, met eligibility criteria and whose information is complete and matches. If there is missing information or if the student is found not to meet eligibility criteria, that student’s information will not be provided to APB for appropriation and the Dean’s Office or academic unit/department will be responsible for the student’s full fellowship expense.

	<p>APB will appropriate funds by fiscal year-end, provided all the requirements have been met.</p>
<p>Program Expectations</p>	<p>SMRF will be the awardee’s principal/primary activity.</p> <p>All of the pre-award forms and post-award deliverables will be complete and submitted by the deadlines.</p> <p>The faculty mentor will be in frequent contact with the awardee during the summer and committed to working closely with the student.</p> <p>Awardees and mentors will complete a program evaluation at the end of summer.</p>
<p>Other Summer Funding</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awardees may not work more than a maximum of 50% time (no exceptions) so as not to detract from the mentored summer experience. Furthermore, awardees should be mindful that by activating this funding, they are declaring that this will be their primary and sole activity in summer. 2. Students who have already been awarded/activated a Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (GSRM) or Graduate Dean’s Scholar Award (GDSA) for Summer 2021 are not eligible to be nominated for a Summer 2021 SMRF award. 3. Awardees are not permitted to have other summer funding (including, but not limited to:the George and Sakaye Aratani Fellowship, Center for European and Russian Studies Summer Award, Foreign Language and Area Studies [FLAS], Lenart Travel Fellowship, National Institutes of Health [NIH] Training Grant, National Science Foundation’s Graduate Research Fellowship Program [NSF GRFP]).
<p>Student Eligibility</p>	<p>For Continuing Students Only</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Are US citizens, permanent residents, international or registered California AB540 students. For international students, funding is subject to fellowship eligibility with regard to visa type. For those under AB540, funding will be provided only if AB131 is still in effect for the duration of the fellowship. II. Have been continuously enrolled/registered the previous Spring and will be continuously enrolled/registered the following Fall. III. Must have cumulative 3.0 GPA at time of award payment (i.e., at the time of payment disbursement). IV. Must be in good academic standing and within time-to-degree as established by their program.
<p>FAQs</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>How can I apply for this funding?</i> There is no application process; students are selected by their home academic School/Division for this funding.

2. *Are master's students eligible?*
No.
3. *Are students in professional doctoral programs eligible?*
No. Only academic doctoral students are eligible.
4. *Are students who were first admitted into a Master's degree program and now formally admitted into an academic doctoral program eligible?*
Yes. However, funding should be prioritized to those without any summer funding.
5. *Can I activate/receive funding from both the Graduate Dean's Scholar Award (GDSA) and the Summer Mentored Research Fellowship (SMRF) in the same summer period?*
No. Summer 2021 GDSA recipients are not eligible to be nominated for the Summer 2021 SMRF award.
6. *Am I eligible to activate the Graduate Summer Research Mentorship (GSRM) while receiving the Summer Mentored Research Fellowship (SMRF)?*
No. Summer 2021 GSRM recipients are not eligible to be nominated for the Summer 2021 SMRF award.
7. *I am a recipient of the NSF-GRFP, can I activate the SMRF?*
You can only activate the SMRF if you are not receiving NSF-GRFP stipends in Summer 2021.
8. *Can I work during the summer while also receiving the SMRF?*
Yes, employment is permitted up to 50% time (no exceptions).
9. *I plan to take a leave of absence during Fall 2021. Am I eligible to receive a SMRF award during Summer 2021?*
No.
10. *For the matching program, may departments hire students as TAs/GSRs in order to meet their matching commitment?*
Yes, as long as the salary funding source is gift fund based.
11. *Can supplemental funds be provided to SMRF awardees?*
Yes. Students can be provided additional funds.
12. *Can SMRF funding be applied to Fall instead of Summer?*
No. SMRF funding only applies to the Summer period.
13. *Can SMRF funding slots be used interchangeably between new and continuing students?*
No. Each program is distinct.

Contact

Please reach out to your dean's office for assistance.

Last Updated

May 2021