

# THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Nomination Form for the Clifford D. Clark Diversity Fellowship for Graduate Students



## To be submitted by the Director of Graduate Studies

Each academic program is responsible for recommendations to the Graduate School on admission and Clifford D. Clark Diversity Fellowship for Graduate Students funding. Applicants must be admitted to the program before they can be nominated for the fellowship. Using the nomination form, each program is responsible for nominating applicants whom they recommend for the fellowship. Nominations should be submitted to the Graduate School by one of the review dates: February 1 (limited portion of awards), or March 1 (remainder of awards). Given the competitive nature of these awards, early submissions of strong applicants are encouraged.

The Clifford D. Clark Diversity Fellowship is designed to direct aid to graduate/professional students who have demonstrated academic achievement and overcome a disadvantage or other impediment to success in higher education. Candidates will contribute to the diversity of the student body by demonstrating their commitment to facilitating and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion effects in their academic programs and activities.

Candidates for a Clifford D. Clark Diversity Fellowship for Graduate Students must:

1. Be newly admitted to a graduate program
2. Be US citizens or have permanent resident status
3. Demonstrate how they have overcome a disadvantage or other impediment to success in higher education; and
4. Demonstrate a commitment to contributing to the diversity of the student body by facilitating and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in their academic programs and campus activities.

Even though financial need is not a requirement for program eligibility, applicants may utilize economic disadvantage as a basis for eligibility.

### ***Preference will be given to candidates who are:***

- From a low-income background (e.g., Pell-eligible as undergraduates), were first-generation college students (students whose parents have not earned a bachelor's degree), have overcome adversity, are AmeriCorps alumni, or are veterans.

Applicants for this fellowship must provide an essay (maximum of 600 words) addressing how they will contribute to the diversity of the student body in their graduate program. The essay must address the following prompt:

*“Please describe how you’ve engaged, facilitated, and/or enhanced diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in your campus and/or local community. Examples could include personal, academic, and/or work experience and may include, but is not limited to, your potential to contribute to enhancing diversity efforts in your academic program at SUNY and campus communities; experiences overcoming economic, social, educational disadvantages, and/or other barriers”.*

The Clifford D. Clark Diversity Fellowship is open to any and all prospective candidates regardless of race, color, national origin, or sex, and is consistent with all current governing federal and state nondiscrimination law. All application submissions will be assessed and evaluated in accordance with the required eligibility criteria.

**All campus distributions are pending annual state budget approval. While we have been awarding campuses scholarships for many years, funding may not be guaranteed every year.**

Graduate program: \_\_\_\_\_

Graduate director: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Initial faculty advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

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How will this student enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in their graduate academic program? (250 word maximum)

What are the strengths of this nominee? Comment on the nominee's credentials (e.g., GPA, GRE if applicable) (100 word maximum).

What are areas of concern (or weaknesses) of this nominee and how does the department plan to address these concerns? (100 words maximum).

How will the department support and mentor this nominee to ensure the timely progress and successful completion of degree requirements? (100 words maximum).

Required partial department support and total years qualified students can be funded:

- For a student entering a doctoral program with a bachelor's degree, support is for up to five years. Partial department support is required for one semester after the first year.
- For a student entering a doctoral program with a master's degree, support is for up to three years. Partial department support is required for one semester after the first year.
- For a student entering a master's program with a bachelor's degree, support is for up to two years. Partial department support is required for one semester after the first year.

Graduate director signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_