Graduate Equity Fellowship
Academic Year 2026-2027

WHAT IS THE GRADUATE EQUITY FELLOWSHIP?

The Graduate Equity Fellowship seeks to increase the diversity of students completing a graduate degree program at CSU, Sacramento. Students selected as fellows will be awarded money per semester, up to 4 semesters if they continue to meet the requirements of the program.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- California Resident or have an AB540 affidavit on file;
- Admitted and enrolled as a graduate student in a Master's Program and must be full time status (8 units);
- Applicant has applied for financial aid and demonstrates a minimum financial need of $1,000 as determined by the Financial Aid Office;
- Applicant has experienced various impediments to obtaining entry to graduate school. Impediments can be absence of a family member who attended college; matriculation in a school or schools with poor financial or curricular support, have physical or learning disability; or
- Academic research interest focusing on cultural, societal, or educational problems as they affect educationally disadvantaged segments of society; or
- Evidence of an intention to use the degree toward the fostering of diversity in the field of education.

Application Deadline: Friday, April 10, 2026.

Where can you get more information?

Should you have any questions, contact Graduate Excellence and Engagement Program at 916-278-4397 or email geep@csus.edu.

TO APPLY FOR THE GRADUATE EQUITY FELLOWSHIP (You will need to provide a response to the following questions on the application, answers will need to less than one page per question)

1. Provide a statement of purpose. Please discuss why you are applying for the fellowship, your goals and why you feel these are important. In addition, discuss your potential to succeed in a graduate program.
2. Have you experienced social, economic, or other disadvantages that you have had to overcome? Please discuss the ways in which these experiences have affected your academic opportunities.
3. How do your academic interests relate to issues affecting the education of diverse groups in society? Please describe how your scholarly or creative work will contribute to serving or expanding their opportunities. Educationally diverse groups may include those based on race, color, creed, national origin, sex, disability, or other status.
4. Please discuss how your prior life experiences – academic, professional, volunteer, etc. demonstrate a commitment to serving diverse segments of society.

   You will need to upload the following documents:
   - A copy of all college transcripts (unofficial transcripts)
   - Proof of eligibility for Financial Aid (Student aid Report)
   - Request two faculty recommendations (the link to the recommendation form will be found at the end of the application Qualtrics, upon submission.)