

Bertha Morton Recruitment Scholarships



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Last Revision:
Approved by: Graduate Council
Reference: Procedure 303.10 Bertha Morton Fellowships / Scholarships

Background

In 2017, the Graduate Council supported the Graduate Dean's request to emend the scholarship language for the Bertha Morton specifically to allow for the use of those funds in recruitment.

Based on pilot allocations of Bertha Morton money to recruitment of incoming students during surplus years (2019, 2020, 2022), the Graduate School requested (Sept. 22), and Graduate Council agreed (Nov. 9, 2022), to set a formula for allocating funds to recruitment. Based on the Foundation's announcement of available money (usually in mid-December), this procedure allows the Graduate School to solicit applications from programs (see below) during December and January, when Graduate Council does not meet.

This revised procedure creates two review committees based on these different purposes: 1) Bertha Morton Recruitment Scholarships; 2) Bertha Morton Scholarship / Fellowship Awards (as per normal procedure above). These committees will be made up of current Graduate Council members, and service on 1 committee will exempt members from service on the other. In most review periods, 2-3 Graduate Council members and the Graduate Dean (or Associate Dean) will be sufficient for the Recruitment Committee.

Procedure

The Scholarship / Fellowship Awards will utilize the first \$75,000 in funding (roughly 25 Scholarships at \$3000 each, with Fellowship awards of \$5000 given at the discretion of the committee). Then every dollar over that mount \$75,000 will be allocated for recruitment, until there is an equivalent amount available to both funds (\$150,000 total). Every dollar over that amount would be allocated to each of the two committees on a 50% split, beginning with Scholarship/Fellowship Awards, with increments below the standard amount of \$3000 resulting in no net additions of scholarships.

In years where the amount available is smaller (below \$90,000), relatively small amounts would be available for recruitment: in that instance, the recruitment committee and the Graduate Dean would have discretion to return money to the scholarship fund if the effort to solicit applications would outweigh the benefits.

The Recruitment Scholarship Committee will allocate \$3000 to incoming Masters and \$5000 to incoming Doctoral students. Graduate programs will be notified in early January when the funds are available, and will be asked to apply for the funding by selecting their top applicant for recruitment, and presenting support materials in alignment with the criteria used to review Bertha Morton Scholarship / Fellowship

Awards. Programs can submit an alternate candidate in the event that their first candidate withdraws from consideration, but alternate candidates will not automatically be offered the scholarship: they will be ranked within the existing pool. Recognizing the need for injecting the funding into the recruitment phases, balanced against the different deadline dates of different programs, the committee will split the funding and review candidates based on two deadlines (early February, early March).

The Recruitment Scholarship Committee will review these applications and provide a ranked list of candidates that the Graduate School will use to communicate with programs during the recruitment process. The funding will be delivered to students in the same way as current BM funding: as a one-year award, divided between the two semesters.