



## INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (IGRF)

International Graduate Research Fellowships provide University of Maryland graduate students with a meaningful research experience in an international context, broadening the student's knowledge and perspective. The fellowships take advantage of ongoing collaborations between UMD faculty and their international colleagues, and, through graduate student exchange, enhance those collaborations.

The fellowships facilitate and support research opportunities for doctoral students and, in exceptional cases, master's students, for a period of one to three months in another country. This period can be at any time during the year. The fellowships take the form of financial support for travel and living expenses and do not provide compensation for research work. There are no provisions for a tuition award or health insurance. Continuous enrollment at University of Maryland will be required. If there are any tuition costs, they will have to be paid for by the student.

### ELIGIBILITY

A member of the Graduate Faculty can recommend a University of Maryland doctoral or master's student to participate in an international research project, generally, though not necessarily, one in which the faculty member is directly or indirectly involved. The graduate student's academic advisor, if different from the recommending faculty member, also must endorse the recommendation. The student's participation in the international research project must benefit *both* the project and the student's individual research. **Please note that a student may receive this award only once.**

### PARTNERSHIP AND FUNDING

The International Graduate Research Fellowships are a partnership between the Graduate School; the student's home institution (college, program, or PI); and the host institution (host program or host PI). The total cost to support a student on this fellowship will vary but cannot exceed \$7500 per student. Fellowship funds are to be used for travel and living expenses. The Graduate School will provide one-third of the cost (up to \$2,500), and the student's college, program, or PI will provide one-third of the cost (up to \$2500), and the host institution will provide one-third of the cost (up to \$2500). Host institutions may request to provide their one-third share in-kind, in the form of housing, food, and internal travel.

### DEADLINES AND REVIEW PROCESS

Applications must be submitted at least 30 days prior to first day of travel.

The Graduate School will make a prompt decision regarding its support and notify the student and the faculty recommender of its decision. If the decision is positive, the student will be asked to complete a Commitment Agreement which will confirm funding amounts by each party.

Upon receipt of a signed commitment agreement, the Graduate School funds will be transferred to the UMD Department who is advising the student.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

The collaborative research will vary across disciplines and can involve work in a research lab or work in the field. The student and the student's advisor will need to prepare an application package that includes the materials listed below:

1. Application Cover Sheet (can be found [here](#))
2. A letter of recommendation from a member of the UMD faculty who generally, though not necessarily, is directly or indirectly involved with the project. The letter should include, in lay terms, a description of the international research project. The letter should also describe the nature of the student's participation, how the project will benefit from the student's participation, and how the student's participation will enhance his or her own research and academic progress.
3. An endorsement letter from the graduate student's academic advisor, if different from the recommending faculty.
4. A statement from the student outlining how participation in this project will benefit both the project and the student's individual research.
5. A statement from the **UMD program** indicating its commitment to fund the student according to the guidelines specified under "Partnership and Funding."
6. A statement from the **host institution** indicating its commitment to fund the student according to the guidelines specified under "Partnership and Funding." The host institution's support may be monetary or in-kind.
7. The student's curriculum vitae (no more than two pages).

Please prepare these materials as a single PDF file and email the application to [IGRF@umd.edu](mailto:IGRF@umd.edu).

## **REPORTING**

International Graduate Research Fellows will be asked to provide a one-page report that describes their participation in the international research project. Reports must be co-signed by the UMD faculty recommender.

## **CONTACT**

Please direct any questions to Robyn Kotzker, Program Director for the Office of Funding Opportunities ([rkotzker@umd.edu](mailto:rkotzker@umd.edu), 301.405.0281)



INTERNATIONAL GRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Application Cover Sheet

Application packages must include: 1) this cover sheet; 2) a recommendation letter from UMD faculty; 3) an endorsement letter (if applicable); 4) a student statement; 5) a statement from the student's program; 6) a statement from the host institution; and 7) the student's CV (two-page maximum). Complete Fellowship Guidelines can be found on the Graduate School website.

The application package must be assembled in a single PDF file and sent to the Graduate School at IGRF@umd.edu.

Upon Graduate School approval, a signed commitment agreement will be required.

Anticipated date of Travel: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of IGRF Application: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Information:

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Directory ID \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Student Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Students Department/Program \_\_\_\_\_

UMD Information:

Department/Program sponsoring the fellowship \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor (name, email) \_\_\_\_\_

Host Institution Information:

Host Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Host Institution Address \_\_\_\_\_

Department/Program at Host institution sponsoring the fellowship \_\_\_\_\_

Host Institution Advisor (name, email) \_\_\_\_\_

Fellowship Information:

The student will conduct research on \_\_\_\_\_ (Field/Project)

Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ End Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Estimated cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (travel, food and lodging)

This fellowship is available for UMD students only. International UMD students awarded the IGRF must consult with International Student and Scholar Services to ensure compliance with their U.S. student visa.