



Semester Dissertation Fellowship Advisor / DGS Letter Instructions (AY 2021-22)

The Dissertation Fellowships (Ann G. Wylie and Lee Thornton) are one semester full-time fellowships that provide a student with a stipend of \$15,000 and candidacy tuition remission. Eligible students are on track for graduation by August 2022. Complete guidelines can be found [here](#).

The Fellowship Committee will base their selection decisions on the student's achievements and promise, the excellence of the research proposal, work done on the project to date (*if any*), the potential importance of the dissertation to the student's field of research, and the likelihood of the student's ability to complete the dissertation during the fellowship year and graduate by August 2022.

A letter from the Advisor and a letter from the Director of Graduate Studies are required for nomination.

Letter #1 - Advisor Letter: The student's advisor should prepare a letter describing of the excellence of the student, the significance of the student's dissertation project, and an account of how the fellowship will have an impact on the student's ability to advance toward their degree.

Letter #2 - DGS Letter: The student's Director of Graduate Studies should prepare a letter that confirms the student is in good standing and provides information about the student's academic discipline in order to better inform the committee about disciplinary and programmatic differences. Please comment on the following:

- the department's (or field's) expectation for time to degree;
- a typical publication record for a student in this field; and/or
- the student's timeline for the project.

If the student's advisor is also the Director of Graduate Studies, the Program/Department Chair should submit the second letter as described above.

Programs: These letters must be appended to the rest of the nomination materials to create a single PDF file. The complete nomination package (a single PDF file) is due to the Graduate School by **noon on Wednesday, February 10, 2021**. Please submit the nomination package(s) using the Graduate School Awards System at apps.gradschool.umd.edu/GSAwardsSystem/

Complete Semester Dissertation Fellowship guidelines can be found on the Graduate School [website](#).

