

Graduate Merit Fellowship Program

Mission: The goal of the Graduate Merit Fellowship program is to attract outstanding graduate students to departmental graduate programs at Ball State University.

Guidelines:

1. Fellowships are renewable for a second year for the same student and are to be used to recruit graduate students to their first year of graduate study at Ball State University. A recipient must be a **NEW** full-time, on-campus graduate student, and hold an academic-year assistantship (fall and spring semesters, only).
2. Graduate Merit Fellows should be of high academic caliber and be able to contribute fully to their department's goals. The minimum baccalaureate GPA required for master's level students is 3.3; the minimum GRE scores required for doctoral students are verbal, 155 (old – 530) 69th percentile and quantitative 147 (old – 570) 40th percentile. These minima are based on **Goal 1** of the Strategic Plan for the Graduate School.
3. Fellowship dollars will be awarded to students on assistantships funded by departmental **1-accounts** through the offices of their respective academic dean and the Graduate School (**no 2-, 3-, or 5- accts**).
4. The additional stipend, approved on an annual basis, must be in addition to the standard departmental academic-year stipend.
5. Master's, specialists, and doctoral programs are eligible for the program, but the two-year maximum applies to all three program types.
6. Academic deans will assign Graduate Merit Fellowships to departments. Departments will then forward nomination forms to the dean (maximum 1 page, plus copy of transcripts) as students are recruited. The Dean will forward their selections to the Graduate Dean for final approval.

Procedure:

The student's normal assistantship contract will need to be entered into EPAF **with** the fellowship stipend (make a note in the EPAF comment section that the fellowship stipend is included). The money will be transferred to the account entered on EPAF unless the Graduate School is notified of a different account number.

