2024-2025 Arthur J. Schmitt Leadership Scholars Fellowship

Call for Applications

Each year the Graduate School awards a limited number of Arthur J. Schmitt Leadership Scholars Fellowships. The fellowships provide support to PhD students who have demonstrated excellence in all aspects of graduate study and are in the **final stage** of doctoral work, i.e. completing the dissertation. The fellowships include a stipend, a tuition scholarship, and health insurance. **Each department may nominate 2 (two) candidates for the Arthur J. Schmitt Leadership Scholars Fellowships.**

The Arthur J. Schmitt Foundation supports graduate level study at several Catholic universities and the directors of the foundation work to fulfill the late Mr. Schmitt's educational mission by stressing the importance of intellectual development and service to others. **Given the importance of becoming future leaders who serve others, participation in leadership seminars and other activities is required during the year the fellowship is awarded.**

Students with identities that are under-represented in their disciplines are strongly encouraged to apply. The Graduate School at Loyola University Chicago believes that students and our community are best served when the university population reflects the larger society and encourages the programs under its jurisdiction to embrace diversity and strive for inclusion. A diverse academic community enhances the pursuit of knowledge and its contribution to our understanding of the world around us.

Eligibility Requirements

By the application due date of **January 15, 2024** applicants are required to have:

1) either been awarded candidacy OR have completed all steps to advance to candidacy except for successful completion of IRB approval, which must be completed by no later than June 1, 2024;
2) an anticipated defense of the dissertation no sooner than January 31, 2025 and no later than the end August 2025;
3) submission of all required application material so that it is received electronically by the Graduate School no later than **midnight on Monday, January 15, 2024.**

The fellowship is conditional upon the applicant's meeting all eligibility requirements. The application of a student who does not meet the eligibility requirements will not be considered. If it is determined after awarding a fellowship that the recipient has not met the eligibility requirements, the fellowship will be withdrawn.

Decision Criteria

The Graduate Fellowships Committee, an independent body of Graduate School faculty members from a variety of disciplines, reviews the applications and makes award recommendations based on the following criteria:

1) Student's academic record;
2) Intellectual strength of proposal; and
3) Student's demonstrated leadership potential

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Conditions of Receiving a Fellowship

In accepting a fellowship, each recipient agrees to:

1) participate in person in:
   a. a series of "Conversations on Leadership" for Schmitt Fellows;
   b. a collaborative project on ethical leadership
   c. the Interdisciplinary Graduate Research Symposium (LSC) or St. Albert's Day (HSC);
   d. the Graduate School Three Minute Thesis competition;
2) engage in full-time work on the dissertation; and
3) not hold concurrent funding from another source.

Applications

Application material is available from the Graduate School. The application deadlines are:

- **Tuesday, January 2, 2024**: Student application materials (Sections A through E) must be submitted to their department chair and GPD for evaluation.
- **Monday, January 15, 2024**: A PDF of the nominee's required application material and both letters of recommendation must be sent to the Graduate School by midnight. We prefer that letters be sent with the entire package, and the form in the application for recommenders asks that they send them directly to the program GPD by January 5, 2024. **A reminder that no more than two applications per department will be accepted.**