GRADUATE STUDENT SUMMER RESEARCH ASSISTANT PROGRAM 2016

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UTEP GRADUATE SCHOOL
WHAT IS IT?

• Supported by the Office of the Provost, the Graduate School will provide summer research support for approximately 20 master's or doctoral students working on a research project under the direction of a faculty mentor during Summer 2016.

• Each student will be paid up to $3,000 for 10 weeks of work.
WHAT IS IT?

• Students selected will receive a salary of $15.00 per hour for a maximum of 20 hours per week for ten weeks between June 1 and August 31.

• This is an hourly position and bi-weekly timesheets will be required.

• Enrollment in a minimum of 3-credit hours maybe required, depending on remaining course requirements and departmental policies.
WHAT IS IT?

• It should be noted that this summer assistantship is primarily intended for graduate students not receiving other paid employment opportunities in the summer. While all are welcome to apply, this will be a consideration for selection.
WHAT IS IT?

• Students will attend at least two Graduate Student Professional Development activities sponsored by the Graduate School during this time.
  
http://graduate.utep.edu/professional_dev_workshops.html

• In addition, all award recipients will be encouraged to submit a proposal to the 2016 Graduate Student Research Expo.
  
http://graduate.utep.edu/graduate_expo.html
ELIGIBILITY

- Master's and doctoral students in good standing
  - Have a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Enrolled full-time in spring semester 2016
- Enrolled for at least three hours of graduate coursework during Summer 2016, depending on remaining course requirements and departmental policies.
ELIGIBILITY

• US citizens, permanent residents, and international students are eligible.

• Already have an identified faculty mentor

• Students are *not eligible* if they are already receiving an assistantship during the summer.

• Students receiving modest scholarship or fellowship support *are* eligible.
THE APPLICATION

Combine the following documents into one PDF submitted by the faculty mentor:

• Completed application cover sheet.

• A 500 word personal statement prepared by the student to include a discussion of the motivation to pursue research, academic preparation or experience in this area, and future academic and career plans.
THE APPLICATION

• A two page project description prepared by the student in consultation with the mentor, including the significance of the project, the research question, project objectives, and methods or processes in which the student will be engaged.
THE APPLICATION

• 250 word (one page) mentoring plan, approved by the faculty mentor, outlining specific plans for the development of the student's research skills during the ten weeks of the project.

• Student's CV

• An unofficial copy of the student's most recent transcript
THE FACULTY MENTOR

• The faculty mentor is expected to provide mentorship and supervision, with adequate space, materials, supplies and equipment necessary to conduct the project. The faculty mentor will submit a brief online evaluation at the end of the summer.
• You should be working closely with your faculty mentor as you prepare your proposal.
• It is your faculty mentor who will submit your proposal on your behalf, by emailing it to:

gradsummer@utep.edu
RECAP

• Identify a mentor and research project
• Prepare application in consultation with mentor
• Create single .pdf file
• Mentor submits file to gradsummer@utep.edu
THE APPLICATION:
PROJECT DESCRIPTION

• This cover sheet:
  • [http://graduate.utep.edu/Other%20Materials/Forms%20Folder/RASummerProgram-Form.pdf](http://graduate.utep.edu/Other%20Materials/Forms%20Folder/RASummerProgram-Form.pdf)
THE APPLICATION: PROJECT DESCRIPTION

• A 500 word project description (prepared by the student in consultation with the mentor) including:
  • The significance of the project
  • The research question
  • Project objectives
  • Methods and processes
THE APPLICATION:
PERSONAL STATEMENT

• A 500 word personal statement prepared by the student explaining:
  • Your motivation to pursue research
  • Your academic preparation and experience
  • How the research will enhance your UTEP experience
  • How this funding will contribute to the completion of your degree
  • Your future academic and career plans.
THE APPLICATION: MENTORING PLAN

• 250 word (maximum) mentoring plan outlining specific plans for the development of the student's research skills during the ten weeks of the project.

• Who writes this?
  • Student in collaboration with mentor, or
  • Mentor
THE APPLICATION:
YOUR CV

• You can learn more about how to put together a curriculum vitae (CV) on our professional development website:

http://graduate.utep.edu/Forms/CVWsshop.GraduateSchoolProDev.pdf
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Please visit our website to learn about funding opportunities at The Graduate School and beyond:

http://graduate.utep.edu/scholarships_current.html

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter for updated opportunities
COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS

- Your work seems important, even to those of us who might not share your specialization
  - *Appeal to the educated non-expert*
- You explain how this opportunity will enhance your graduate education and possibly your career
COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS

• Explain how you will take advantage of the opportunity to developing your academic and professional skills

• And... you have expressed all of this clearly and correctly. *No spelling and grammatical errors.*

• Quality of writing does matter!

• Submit your application on time; late applications will not be considered.
THE DEADLINE AND SELECTION

The deadline to submit your proposal is:

April 6, 2016, 11:59 pm

A panel of UTEP faculty will evaluate applications based on the quality of the proposed research, the potential professional and academic benefit to the students and the potential to advance faculty research efforts.

Decisions will be announced by May 10th.
QUESTIONS?

We at The Graduate School look forward to assisting you and answering any questions.