

# K-State Graduate School

## Weekly Newsletter

**January 14, 2020** [Events and Deadlines](#)

This newsletter is distributed to department heads, graduate program directors, graduate program contact staff, and graduate faculty.

### **Graduate Program Directors**

#### [Student Employee Position](#)

The Graduate School is looking for a student employee to work up to 30 hours a week if possible. Screening begins immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Please send a cover letter, resume, and names and contact information for three references to the attention of Cynthia Brott at [cdbrott@ksu.edu](mailto:cdbrott@ksu.edu).

#### [Spring 2020 Graduate Student Orientation](#)

The Graduate School and other campus support are hosting welcome and orientation activities for new graduate students this week. A schedule of sessions and activities is available on the [Graduate School website](#). Current students who were unable to attend orientation their first semester or would like a refresher are welcome to attend. Advanced registration has closed, but students should still attend even if they did not register in advance. The Graduate School's sessions for new GTA/GRA/GA appointments and for all new graduate students that will be held on January 15 will be available via Zoom. Zoom registration links are available on the spring orientation webpage.

#### [Graduate Assistantship Forms](#)

As a reminder, all graduate programs and other employing units are to use the updated Graduate Assistantship Appointment forms for new and continuing appointments (changes in responsibilities or distribution of tenths time) effective January 1, 2020. Note the new form requires the following information to be provided: type of appointment, length, stipend and other financial support, list of duties and responsibilities, name of supervisor with contact information, and date when signed appointment form is to be returned and the address to which it is to be returned. The appointment offer should be signed by the department head or an administrator with signature authorization. Instructions and the fillable forms are available in the [Faculty and Staff](#) section of the Graduate School website.

**April 15<sup>th</sup> Resolution with Council of Graduate Schools**

As we approach another graduate recruiting and admissions season, graduate programs are reminded of our institution's participation in the Council of Graduate Schools' (CGS) "[Resolution Regarding Graduate Scholars, Fellows, Trainees and Assistantships](#)" also known as the "April 15 Resolution." The deadline for acceptance of financial aid remains on that date, at midnight Sunday night in your time zone.

Participation in the resolution obliges us to **allow admitted graduate students to consider all offers of financial support through April 15**. In turn, the resolution binds students to their decisions made or held in place after April 15. Over 325 U.S. institutions offering graduate degrees have agreed to abide by this resolution. Your cooperation ensures that both student and programs conduct their admissions in an ethical manner, and that they receive equal treatment and consideration in the financial support decision-making process.

Here are some important aspects of the Resolution:

- The April 15, 2020, deadline applies only to acceptance of an offer of financial support such as a graduate scholarship, fellowship, traineeship, or assistantship.
- It applies only to offers of financial support for the following academic year.
- Although you can send out your offers well before the deadline, prospective graduate students are under no obligation to respond to offers of financial aid prior to April 15.
- Acceptance of an offer of financial support made after April 15, 2020, is conditional upon presentation by the student of written release from any previously accepted offer.
- All offers of financial support should include a copy of or link to the "[April 15 Resolution](#)"

In addition to direct information on the resolution, some explanatory language should be included in all financial support letters. Below is an example of wording that you are free to use in your letter.

Please inform us in writing of your decision no later than April 15, 2020. In accordance with the [Council of Graduate Schools' \(CGS\) resolution](#), you may consider other offers of financial support until the April 15 deadline, but any decision after April 15 is an obligation that you are expected to honor. Likewise, we will honor this offer until the April 15 deadline, after which point it will be rescinded unless you are informed in writing that the deadline for a decision has been extended. Although you are under no obligation to accept this offer prior to April 15, please let us know as soon as you have made a decision so that we may extend offers to other prospective students if possible.

Please contact the Graduate School with questions or concerns about the April 15 Resolution.

**[Accepting nominations: AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering \(CASE\) workshop](#)**

The Graduate School is accepting nominations for two graduate students in STEM-related fields to attend the [AAAS Catalyzing Advocacy in Science and Engineering \(CASE\) workshop](#) March 29-April 1 in Washington, DC. For more details, see the full announcement in [K-State Today](#). To nominate a student, the graduate program director or department chair must provide a short — approximately 100 words — paragraph on why they are nominating the student. The student also must provide a short — approximately 100 word — paragraph addressing why he or she would like to attend the workshop, what they expect to gain from the experience, and how it would fit into their career plans, as well as a short CV. Please send nomination documents to Megan Miller ([mmmiller@ksu.edu](mailto:mmmiller@ksu.edu)) by 5:00pm on February 7. Questions can be directed to Carol Shanklin ([shanklin@ksu.edu](mailto:shanklin@ksu.edu)), dean of the Graduate School.

### **[Complete a brief form to indicate the iBT TOEFL to be used for your graduate program](#)**

Educational Testing Service (ETS) is now providing individuals who take the iBT TOEFL two scores: the score for the current test and MyBest™ Score which is composed of the highest scores from each sub-section (reading, listening, speaking, and writing) from all of the test taker's valid iBT TOEFL scores from tests taken in the last two years. The Graduate Council approved the following policy at their December meeting: Graduate Programs may use MyBest™ Score or the most recent iBT TOEFL in assessing language proficiency for admissions of international students. Programs must determine which score to use and apply it consistently for all applicants. This policy change is effective for all international applicants admitted for **Spring 2020 and thereafter**.

To assist the Graduate School with processing recommendations for admission, we ask that each graduate program **[complete a brief form](#)** to indicate which iBT TOEFL score should be used to evaluate international applicants to your program.

## **Graduate Students**

### **[Graduate Student Leadership Development Program – Accepting Applications](#)**

Through this semester-long experience, graduate students will work with Leadership Studies faculty and their peers to dive into challenges that are most important to them. The program provides an opportunity to develop leadership skills to make a positive change in work, studies, and student organizations, and move beyond technical expertise to solve problems. **Must apply by January 24, 2020**, to be considered for participation.

### **[Registration open for annual Three Minute Thesis Competition](#)**

Registration is open for the Graduate School's annual Three Minute Thesis competition (3MT), which challenges graduate students to present a compelling oration on their thesis/dissertation topic and its significance in just three minutes using just one slide. 3MT® facilitates the development of academic, presentation, and research communication skills. The competition focuses on the students' ability to communicate the importance of their research to the broader community. Heats, or preliminary competitions, will be held on February 14. Judges will select

participants from each heat to compete in the final competition on February 27. **Registration deadline: January 31, 2020 at 11:59 pm CST.**

### **Graduate Student Council Travel Awards**

**February 1 is the deadline** for graduate students to apply for GSC travel awards for travel to academic and professional events that begin anytime in April.

### **Registration open for K-State Graduate Research, Arts, and Discovery (K-GRAD) Forum**

Registration is open for the Graduate Student Council's 2020 K-State GRAD Forum. Graduate students from all disciplines are invited to participate and may register to give either an oral presentation on March 25 or a poster presentation on March 26. Judges will select the most outstanding presentation in each session to receive an award. **Registration and abstract submission deadline: February 7, 2020, at 11:59 pm CST.**

### **Complete the KSN application by Feb. 15 to be considered for K-State scholarships**

Graduate students are encouraged to complete the K-State Scholarship Network (KSN) application to be considered for scholarship opportunities. Students will create a profile in the system that will help match them to specific scholarship opportunities provided by K-State donors and offered through university departments. Scholarship opportunities are available for incoming and continuing students. To be considered for scholarships, students must **complete the KSN application by February 15 each year**. All scholarship awards in the KSN are made for the fall semester. Detailed instructions and frequently asked questions are available on the [Office of Student Financial Assistance](#) website.

### **For Women in Science!**

The L'Oréal USA For Women in Science fellowship program awards female scientists at a critical stage in their careers with grants of \$60,000 each. The program is seeking five exceptional female scientists looking to advance their research and serve as role models for the next generation of girls in STEM. The program is the U.S. component of the [L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science International Fellowships program](#).

L'Oréal USA partners with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to manage the program's application and peer-review process. Each year, the program attracts talented applicants from diverse STEM fields, representing some of the nation's leading academic institutions and laboratories. For more information about [the L'Oréal USA For Women in Science program](#), please visit the website and [apply](#). The completed **applications are due no later than January 31, 2020**, and the awards will be announced in October 2020.

## [Accepting Applications: ETS Research and Development Internship and Fellowship Programs](#)

The ETS is seeking graduate students enrolled in a doctoral program and early-career scientists who are interested in research opportunities in the following emphasis areas:

- Assessment, measurement and psychometrics: assessment design, validity, fairness, psychometric modeling
- Education: higher education, career and technical education, teacher education, English as a second or foreign language
- Natural language processing and computational linguistics
- Psychology: cognitive psychology, educational psychology, industry-organizational psychology
- Speech recognition and processing
- Statistics and data science: machine learning, causal inference, computational statistics, hierarchical modeling

## [Summer Internship Program in Research for Graduate Students](#)

Selected interns conduct research under the guidance of mentors at ETS offices in Princeton, N.J. Graduate students who are currently enrolled in full-time doctoral programs in the areas listed above and who have completed a minimum of two years of coursework toward their Ph.D. or Ed.D. prior to the program start date are eligible to apply. **Application Deadline: February 1, 2020**

## [Postdoctoral Fellowship Program](#)

This program provides opportunities for early-career scholars to work with ETS researchers on a variety of cutting-edge topics, including foundational research as well as research embedded in real-world testing programs. Candidates must have received their doctorate within the past three years. This year, ETS is seeking applications in the following areas of expertise: measurement, psychometrics and statistics; process data modeling and analysis; and artificial intelligence. **Application Deadlines: March 1, 2020** (preliminary) **and April 15, 2020** (final)

## [Rotary Peace Fellowships](#)

Each year, Rotary selects individuals from around the world to receive fully funded academic fellowships in Peace and Conflict resolution studies at one of our peace centers. These fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship/field study expenses. Eligible candidates may not be a Rotarian or related to a Rotarian. Two types of fellowships are available. Rotary will begin accepting applications for the 2020 Rotary Peace Fellowships in February 2020. The [application](#) will be available online. Submit your application through your local Rotary club **prior to May 1, 2020**. Contact [Chuck Udell](#) or [Patti Mellard](#), District Chairs, for help with the application.

## MASTER'S DEGREE FELLOWSHIP

Studies in fields related to peace and conflict resolution and prevention. Requires a

minimum of 3 years of related work or volunteer experience and a bachelor's degree. Programs last 15–24 months and require a practical internship of 2–3 months during the academic break. Up to 50 master's fellowships each year.

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE

A program for those with more extensive experience in peace-related fields (5 or more years related experience required). This is a 3-month (Jan – April or June – August) program in peace and conflict resolution at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. This program incorporates 2–3 weeks of field study. Up to 50 certificates awarded each year.

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