

Graduate Scholars Program Guidelines for Awards in 2003

Overview

Men and women of all racial, ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds bring diverse perspectives and make significant contributions to the advancement of the scientific enterprise. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation has a long-standing commitment to increasing the participation of underrepresented groups in the sciences and engineering, a goal which benefits not only those individuals and their communities, but also the scientific enterprise as a whole. Within the Science Program, the Underrepresented Groups in Science Program focuses on several populations, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the students who graduate from these institutions.

The nation's HBCUs have a long history of educating African-American students and preparing them for post-graduate studies in a variety of disciplines. Recognizing the special place that these schools hold in our educational landscape, the Foundation established the HBCU Science Program in 1987. The goal of this program is to improve the quality of undergraduate science and mathematics instruction at HBCUs and thereby increase the number of graduates prepared to move into leadership positions in their chosen fields.

To complement the HBCU Science Program, the Graduate Scholars Program was established in 1992 to further increase the participation of African-American students in the scientific enterprise. The program supports HBCU graduates pursuing doctoral degrees in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering.

Since 1993, the Foundation has hosted an annual conference that brings together the current scholars and members of the Foundation staff, the Foundation Board, and the HBCU Advisory Panel.

Awards

The Graduate Scholars Program awards between 10 and 15 graduate scholarships annually. Each scholarship is for \$100,000 paid over five years. The student may use the award to pursue doctoral work in one of the natural sciences, mathematics, computer science, or engineering at any U.S. institution. The grant is awarded to the Scholar's graduate university, not to the Scholar, and continuation of funding is subject to satisfactory academic progress. Funds may be used to cover the costs of tuition and fees, room and board, books, necessary equipment and supplies, research-related travel, and any other expenses that are essential to the Scholar's academic progress.

Nomination Procedure

The Foundation requests nominations from HBCUs recommended by the HBCU Advisory Panel. Nomination forms are mailed in October to the president of each HBCU. There is no limit to the number of nominations that may be made by each institution, and nomination forms may be duplicated as needed. Nominations are to be accompanied by transcripts and letters of recommendation. Each student selected for an award will be asked to submit a final transcript, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score, and proof of admission to a doctoral program in an approved field before the award becomes final. Students interested in being nominated are encouraged to contact college officials for more detailed information.

Qualifications of Nominees

To qualify for an award, a student must graduate from an HBCU with an overall grade point average of 3.0 or higher, and a grade point average in his or her major subject of 3.5 or higher. Each nominee must also have applied for admission to graduate school, must take the GRE, and must provide his or her GRE score to the Foundation as soon as it becomes available.

Selection Process

Nominations submitted to the Foundation by college and university officials are reviewed by members of the HBCU Advisory Panel, who make recommendations for awards to our Board of Trustees. The Board then makes the final selection of scholarship recipients. Packard scholarships are awarded without regard to age, race, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or physical disability.

Schedule

Requests for nominations for 2003 Packard Graduate Scholars will be mailed to HBCU presidents by October 15, 2002. Completed nomination packages must reach the Foundation by **December 2, 2002**. Awards will be announced in April 2003 and will become effective after the student submits a final transcript, a GRE score, and proof of admission to a doctoral program. The first annual payment of \$20,000 will be made to the university soon after the required documentation is received by the Foundation and will be renewed annually, subject to satisfactory academic progress.

Reporting Requirements

Annual reports will be expected by June 30 of each succeeding year of the scholarship and at the conclusion of the doctoral study. The Scholar's report must be accompanied by an official transcript and a report from the dissertation advisor or department chair. In addition, a financial report should be submitted from the university's grants office.

How to Reach Us

For additional information about the Graduate Scholars Program, please contact:

Graduate Scholars Program
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation
300 Second Street
Los Altos, California 94022

Phone: (650) 917-7235

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Web: www.packardscholars.org

Additional information about the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, including our annual report, program guidelines, specific program brochures, and information about past grants is available on the Web at www.packard.org.

Program Modifications

These programs may be modified from time to time as experience is gained from their operation. Suggestions for modification will be solicited from the Advisory Panel and from the HBCU faculty and graduate scholars. The Board of Trustees of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation reserves the right to make any changes it considers desirable at any time.

HBCU Advisory Panel

Dr. Norman C. Francis

President

Xavier University of Louisiana

Dr. Shirley Malcom

Director of Education and Human Resources

American Association for the Advancement of Science

Dr. Walter E. Massey

President

Morehouse College

Dr. James Stith

Director of Physics Resource Center

American Institute of Physics