

UC Center Sacramento

Presidential Graduate Opportunities for Leadership Development (GOLD) Fellowship

Winter, Spring, Summer 2020

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1) *What is the purpose of the UCCS GOLD Fellowship?*

The purpose of this highly prestigious award is to give UC graduate and professional students at the doctoral level an opportunity to engage deeply with the policymaking community in Sacramento, the capital of the nation's largest state.

2) *Who is eligible to apply?*

Eligibility is restricted to full-time University of California doctoral students seeking PhD, EdD, DEng, MD, or DVM degrees. (Professional school students must have completed at least their first year of coursework; graduate students must have advanced to candidacy.) Selection criteria include demonstrated interest and experience in public policy or public service; academic accomplishment; and, oral and written communication skills. Policy interest and experience will be evaluated based on the applicant's 500-word essay and curriculum vitae (CV). Academic accomplishment will be based on review of graduate or professional school transcripts, CV, and the letter of reference. Communication skills and depth of interest and experience in public policy or public service will be assessed on the basis of the 500-word essay and (for those applicants selected as finalists) a telephone or video interview.

3) *What will I do in Sacramento once I'm there?*

While in Sacramento, GOLD Fellows will engage in a combination of academic and experiential activities including:

- a) Provide academic support for one UCCS undergraduate course and deliver a (one time) student or public seminar ;
- b) Work in a policy setting, generally a state legislative or executive branch office or non-profit policy organization, conducting research or policy analysis that draw on your specialized knowledge or skills ;
- c) With the support of your home campus major professor, internship supervisor, and UCCS faculty, prepare a significant piece of written work (dissertation chapter, scholarly report, or policy brief) on an issue that is both important to State government and that advances your own academic career;
- d) Attend UCCS Speakers Series, academic team meetings, special events, and other activities as assigned.

4) *What financial support does the program offer?*

Successful GOLD Fellows will receive a stipend of about \$10,000 per academic quarter or Summer session (proportionally adjusted for semester students) plus an in-state tuition/fee offset during the academic year of approximately \$4500 per quarter (again, adjusted upwards for semester students). This financial package is designed to replace, not supplement, financial aid provided through the home Department or School.

5) *Is there housing available?*

Housing arrangements are typically the responsibility of the Fellow. Depending on the term, UCCS **may** have space available in one of the two Sacramento housing facilities the University leases in Sacramento (rent in a double-occupancy studio apartment is approximately \$950 per month per person). Please inquire after you have been accepted to the program.

6) How do I apply?

To apply, please send a cover letter indicating the term for which you are applying (Winter, Spring, or Summer 2020), a Curriculum Vitae, 500-word (maximum) description of your interests and accomplishments in public policy and service, and teaching evaluations from last two terms to Cindy Simmons, UCCS Associate Director, email csimmons@ucdavis.edu.

Please ask a professor in your School or Department to send a letter of recommendation to the same email address under separate cover.

7) What are the deadlines?

For **Winter, Spring, and Summer terms in 2020**, the deadline for receipt of application materials is **October 21, 2019** (the letter of recommendation will be accepted up to October 28, 2019).