

Call for Nominations, Spring 2012

The Self Graduate Fellowship (SGF) offers a special opportunity for students seeking a Ph.D. at the University of Kansas. Admitted Ph.D. students may be nominated by their department for this award. The SGF supports outstanding doctoral students in business; economics; engineering; mathematics; and biological, biomedical, pharmaceutical, and physical sciences at the University of Kansas. We seek nominations from departments in these areas for applicants who will begin work on a Ph.D. in the fall semester of 2012 and students in the first year of a Ph.D. program who do not have a research-based master's degree in the Ph.D. discipline.

Nominations must be submitted by noon on February 2, 2012.

Please note that student personal statements should be sent directly to departments and should be included in the nomination file.

Award and Program

Self Fellows receive a support package that exceeds \$164,000. New Self Fellows for 2012-2013 will receive \$29,000 each year for four years. Payment is through appointment as a graduate research assistant, or occasionally as a graduate teaching assistant. The fellowship also covers tuition, fees, and the employer's share of student health insurance costs. Fellows also receive a development program.

The Fellow Development Program is a distinctive feature of the fellowship. It provides general education and training in communication, management, and leadership to assist Self Fellows in preparation for future leadership roles, complementing the specialized education and training provided in Ph.D. programs. Fellow development program topics include oral and written communication, media communication, negotiation, teamwork, advocacy, consensus building, ethics, leadership, business planning and development, financial management, human resources management, and project management and support.

Program activities include two week-long skill sessions, biweekly luncheons, communication coaching sessions, lectures on public policy issues, and a public policy seminar held in Washington, D.C. Fellows are expected to participate in the Fellow Development Program for four consecutive years. The time commitment is approximately 80 hours each year, plus preparation and travel time.

Nomination Guidelines

Who to nominate

We seek individuals whose academic preparation, vision, and commitment to career goals match the Self Fellow Profile. SGF guidelines direct the Board of Trustees to select an entering class with a variety of career goals in the private sector, government, or higher education. No more than 20 percent of offers will go to students who indicate a preference for higher education.

Nominees must be U.S. citizens. Nominees must have received their bachelor's degrees within the last eight years. Students who are invited to interview must submit proof of U.S. citizenship prior to the interview.

Self Fellow profile

Please read this paragraph thoroughly because the success of nominations – both the written portion and the oral interview – depends on the nominee’s response to how they fit these traits.

The ideal candidate possesses unusual motivation, passion, and potential to make significant contributions to his/her profession and to society. In addition to a strong academic record, he or she has leadership, communication, and decision-making skills. He or she displays personal attributes that include self-awareness, emotional maturity, initiative, tenacity, energy, vision, risk-taking, and interpersonal effectiveness. The ideal candidate is interested in personal development and lifelong learning and is committed to participation in the Fellow Development Program.

How to nominate

Please send the “Information for 2012 Self Graduate Fellowship (SGF) Nominees” document to your nominees as soon as they have been identified. It contains directions for their personal statements, which is one of the most important documents in the nomination process. The nomination file submitted by the department should include the SGF cover sheet provided in this document, the student’s SGF personal statement and waiver form, a letter of nomination from the department, copies of the candidate’s KU graduate school application, transcripts, GRE scores, application statement (to the department), resume, three other letters of recommendation, plus any other supporting materials from the department.

Selection process overview

Nominations are due by noon on February 2, 2012. Please note that nominations this year will be submitted electronically. Each document should be scanned separately and uploaded to Hawk Drive. *An email with the location of the Hawk Drive folder designated for each department’s nominations will be sent in January.* Nomination files are reviewed by a team of faculty members and SGF staff. A thorough nomination file is very important. The SGF Board of Trustees reviews recommendations from the evaluation team and will decide who to interview. A brief telephone interview may also be used in the initial review.

The Self Graduate Fellowship Educational Award

A select group of students will be invited to interview by February 17, 2012. Please note that each student who comes to Lawrence for an interview will already be a winner. Students who are not offered the full fellowship will receive a \$3,000 Educational Award. The award will supplement graduate study at KU in the 2012 – 2013 academic year.

Interviewees will be invited to campus to visit departments and interview for Self Fellowships February 29 – March 2, 2012. The SGF will again reimburse departments for travel costs and some recruitment expenses. The deadline for acceptance of offers is April 15, 2012.

For more information, please visit the SGF website: www.ku.edu/~selfpro or contact Sharon Graham, 785-864-7249, sgraham@ku.edu



Self Graduate Fellowship Nomination Cover Sheet, Spring 2012

Nominating department _____

Name of nominee _____

Current address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Social Security number _____

A Social Security number is required for purposes of awarding financial aid. Further, it is requested, but not mandatory under KSA 76-725, for maintaining accurate records and servicing accounts.

Proposed mentor (if known) or first-year faculty contact _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

GRE score and % (if available) _____
Verbal Quantitative Analytical

Undergraduate institution _____ Degree _____

Year degree awarded (anticipated) _____ Must be between 2004 and 2012. GPA _____

Graduate institution _____ Degree _____

Year degree awarded (anticipated) _____ GPA _____

Date of first graduate enrollment at KU _____ KUID _____

Is student currently (Fall 2011, Spring 2012) in first year of KU Ph.D. program? _____

For presently enrolled Ph.D. students, please contact us. If yes, and student has a master's degree, he /she may be ineligible.

Other support or other fellowship awarded or applied for? Please list. _____

Is student a U.S. Citizen? _____ Yes _____ No Only U.S. citizens are eligible

(continued)

Self Graduate Fellowship Nomination Cover Sheet *(continued)*

Include in nomination file: Please scan each item separately.

- _____ 1. Cover Sheet.
- _____ 2. Student's Self Graduate Fellowship personal statement.
- _____ 3. Student's Access Waiver Form.
- _____ 4. Letter of nomination from department. This may come from the chair or other faculty member.
- _____ 5. Copy of KU graduate school application.
- _____ 6. Copy of transcripts of all college or university work.
- _____ 7. Copy of GRE scores. (_____ Please check here if department does not require.)
- _____ 8. Application statement from student to department (if required).
- _____ 9. Student resume.

This resume should highlight experiences, as opposed to a traditional academic vita. Significant achievements from work, hobbies, volunteer projects, school, research, extracurricular activities, travel, and life experience should be listed.
- _____ 10. Other material from the file.
- _____ 11. Three letters of recommendation. (New letters should be submitted on letterhead.)

For new Ph.D. students

- _____ These may come from the Ph.D. application file. However, one or two letters that address Self Fellow attributes will be more informative in considering the nomination. Letters may come from individuals identified by the student.

For currently enrolled first-year Ph.D. students

- _____ At least one letter from a current KU faculty member.
- _____ Other letters may come from the Ph.D. application file. However, one or two letters that address Self Fellow attributes will be more informative in considering the nomination. Letters may come from individuals identified by the student.

Prepared by _____ Email _____

Telephone _____ Date _____

Graduate Director Signature _____

Please note: Nominations should be submitted electronically. Documents should be scanned separately and uploaded to Hawk Drive. An email with the folder location will be sent to each department. Deadline: **February 2, 2012, Noon.**

For more information, visit the SGF website: www.ku.edu/~selfpro or contact Sharon Graham, 785-864-3174, sgraham@ku.edu

Information for University of Kansas Departments

SGF Personal Statement

Students should submit their SGF personal statements to the nominating department. This will allow departments to have access to additional information as they compile the nomination file. Departments may set their own deadlines for this statement. Nominations are due February 2, 2012.

Student Resume

All nominees for 2012 should submit a resume. This should be distinguished from a traditional academic vita. This document should highlight experiences and significant achievements from work, school, volunteer projects, and extracurricular activities. Awards and honors, and research experiences should be listed. Memberships and offices held should be noted.

Letters of Recommendation

The SGF office recognizes that identification is key to successful nomination of a potential Self Fellow. It is easier to write a letter if the individual is known to a department through an REU program, professional association, or other means.

Departments, if possible, are encouraged to contact students who apply to the Ph.D. program. This may give the department the opportunity to more aggressively recruit the candidate and get additional information regarding the student's wider range of experiences. Departments may choose to ask the student to contact someone outside of higher education to write a letter of recommendation. The person being asked to write the letter may be given the following:

Outstanding Ph.D. students may be nominated for the prestigious Madison and Lila Self Graduate Fellowship. Please describe this individual's motivation, passion, and potential to make significant contributions to his/her profession and to society. Successful nominees will have a strong record of leadership and decision-making skills. He or she will display personal attributes that include self-awareness, emotional maturity, initiative, tenacity, energy, vision, risk-taking, and interpersonal effectiveness.

Departments may also choose to add a similar statement on their own application forms.

Goal for Nomination Process

Please note that all files will be submitted on Hawk Drive this year. It is our goal to have the nomination file accurately reflect the student's fit for the Self Graduate Fellowship. In that light, we anticipate interviewing approximately 20 students. There are currently 26 Self Fellows.

The Self Graduate Fellowship Educational Award

Please note that each student who comes to Lawrence for an interview will already be a winner. Students not offered the full fellowship will receive a \$3,000 Educational Award. The award will supplement graduate study at KU in the 2012-2013 academic year.

We thank you for your efforts.

Please direct questions to: Sharon Graham, (864-3174), sgraham@ku.edu