

## Fund for Excellence in Graduate Recruitment (FEGR) Program

### Guidelines

#### Vision of the Program

To have Penn State be the “first choice” university for highly recruited graduate students.

#### Program Mission

- To strengthen graduate programs by providing incentives to colleges and IGDPs for improving the quality of students recruited into the programs.
- To enhance Penn State’s graduate support for students considering offers from other top tier institutions.

#### Funding Purposes

- to top-up program/departmental/college assistantships or fellowships for incoming students. Top-up amounts should be significant enough to make a difference in a student’s decision to attend Penn State.
- to match graduate student support on external grants.
- to match fall or spring semesters of assistantships (research or teaching) for incoming students, or provide support during the summer following fall enrollment for incoming students for whom only fall and spring semester stipends are available.
- to bring outstanding prospective students to campus for recruitment visits and for graduate officers/faculty to travel specifically for recruitment purposes.
- other purposes that will attract top quality students to the program (special projects such as development of recruitment brochures, enhancement of program web sites, development of an alumni recruitment network, etc.).

#### Eligibility and Criteria for Use of Funding

- All colleges offering graduate degrees are eligible for funds. A separate allotment of FEGR funds is provided to the IGDPs. However, colleges are encouraged to support competitive requests for FEGR funds for these students (e.g., for top-ups, stipend matches, etc.) within their college if the more limited IGDP “pot” has been expended and the student is being recruited by faculty within the college.
- Preference should be given for use of FEGR funds for new, incoming students during the first year of enrollment (versus continuing students). Colleges are cautioned that there is no guarantee of level or availability of funds for future years, and colleges are responsible for any shortfalls that may result from future commitments and intended use of FEGR funds as part of multi-year package offers.
- FEGR funds may be used for highly qualified master’s or doctoral level students.

- For each Fund for Excellence dollar given by the Graduate School, the college/department must provide at least an equivalent amount for incoming FEGR students during the same academic year (e.g., top-up funds can be matched with RA/TA funds). FEGR recruitment funds must be matched by departmental/college funds dedicated for recruitment purposes.

### **College Reporting**

The appropriate associate dean for graduate studies of each college receiving FEGR funds must submit a college “Utilization Report” to the Office of Fellowships and Awards Administration of the Graduate School by the deadline specified on the reporting forms. This report must be formatted as specified in the reporting forms. *Reports received after the deadline, or not adhering to the reporting format, may compromise future allocations.*