

Western Illinois University

Underrepresented Minority Dissertation Fellowship Program Description

The purpose of the Underrepresented Minority Dissertation Fellowship Program is to enhance diversity in research, teaching, and service at Western Illinois University (WIU) through the recruitment of underrepresented minority graduate students from across the country who are completing dissertation research.

Fellows will teach one course each semester in an area related to their academic preparation and a need of the department hosting the fellow. Fellows will be expected to devote significant time to the completion of the dissertation. Fellows will also work with a faculty mentor and will be involved with co-curricular activities including the University's cultural diversity initiatives.

Fellows will receive academic year faculty appointments and will be eligible for benefits including health insurance. Salary is \$35,000. Fellows must be eligible for employment. Additionally, fellows will receive support for research, professional travel, and other related expenses. It is expected that fellows will not be employed outside of the University or receive additional fellowships or awards during the fellowship period unless approved by the University.

Excellence in teaching, research/creative activity and service is expected for all positions. WIU seeks qualified candidates who are committed to using integrative technologies in teaching. Proof of U.S. citizenship OR eligibility for U.S. employment will be required prior to employment (Immigration Control Act of 1986).

Fellows must be dissertation stage doctoral degree candidates studying in a field taught at WIU. Preference will be given to persons in disciplines in which minorities are traditionally underrepresented, with experience in diverse educational programs and environments, and a willingness to participate in WIU's diversity initiatives.

For consideration, interested individuals should submit the following hard copy materials:

- A cover letter
- A vita (showing experience/understanding of diversity issues in higher education)
- A recommendation letter from the chairperson of the dissertation committee
- An official transcript indicating that all coursework has been completed
- A proposed plan for completion of dissertation
 - A two-page abstract of the dissertation
 - A proposed timeline for completion, showing milestones

*Submit To: Underrepresented Minority Dissertation Fellowship Program
Office of the Provost and Academic Vice President
Sherman Hall 211
1 University Circle
Western Illinois University
Macomb, Illinois 61455
(309)298-1066*

WIU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer and has a strong institutional commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, or veteran status.