ORSP Research Development and the Graduate School

The UM Graduate EFG Scholarship Program

2023-2024
Table of Contents

1 What is EFG?
2 Eligibility
3 NOI Requirements & Walkthrough
4 Application Process
5 Other Conditions & Payment of Incentive
6 Flow Chart
7 FAQ
8 Resource Links and Contact Info

The UM Graduate EFG Scholarship Program
UM ORSP Research Development and the Graduate School
What is EFG?

Numerous federal agencies, professional societies, and other external organizations offer programs where graduate students can compete for grants and fellowships to support their research and creative scholarship activities. In a new University of Mississippi (UM) program, the UM Graduate Encouraging Fellowship & Grant Applications (EFG) Scholarship Program, UM graduate students who compete for qualifying external fellowships or grants may be eligible to receive an EFG Scholarship as an incentive just for applying. With input from the Graduate Student Council (GSC), the EFG Scholarship Program is being offered by the Graduate School and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP) in fiscal year FY24 (through the end of June 2024), as a replacement to the former GSC Grants Program.
Eligibility Requirements

1  UM Graduate Student

Applicants must be full-time UM graduate students (registered in a minimum of 9 hours in the Fall and/or Spring term) throughout the application process. Online students, non-degree, and certificate-only students are not eligible at this time.

2  Enrolled in at Least One Eligible Graduate Degree Program

A dual-degree student is eligible as long as the student is enrolled in at least one eligible graduate degree program at the time of application.

3  Confirm the External Grant of Fellowship being pursued is on the Pre-Approved List

This list is published by the ORSP Research Development and the Graduate School. If you find an opportunity that is not on the list, and would like to have it considered for inclusion, please email it to efgawards@olemiss.edu or include it in your NOI.

4  Submit a non-binding Notice of Intent (NOI)

Notice of Intent can be found via the UM InfoReady Review Portal. This MUST be submitted at least 6 weeks before your grant/fellowship application is due to the external sponsor.
NOI Requirements and Walkthrough

1 Current Degree Program

2 Short Biographical Statement
In 150 words or less, tell any information about yourself or your academic career that you think is pertinent to your application.

3 Funding Opportunity Information
Ex: Fellowship/Grant/Award name, due date, sponsor organization, website, estimated $ amount, funding type

4 Overview of Funding Opportunity Details and Your Plan
Upload a document (1-page max) that provides an overview of the funding opportunity, and your plan and timeline for developing a competitive application, and for utilizing and leveraging the award if granted. (As well as anything else you think we need to know).

5 After Submitting the EFG NOI, ORSP RD and the Graduate School
Will review and confirm the eligibility of the applicant and the program, and the availability of incentive funds, and provide any additional conditions or information that the applicant should know about before applying.

The UM Graduate EFG Scholarship Program
UM ORSP Research Development and the Graduate School
Application Process

It is important to carefully follow every step of the application process to be able to receive the incentive payment.

1. Compose Your Fellowship or Grant Application
   Once your application is complete, don't submit it just yet. It is IMPERATIVE that you complete step two before submitting your application.

2. Obtain Formal Feedback From Two Readers
   **First Reader:** A member of the University of Mississippi faculty who may be the applicant’s advisor or any other faculty member.

   **Second Reader:** Any other member of the UM community who can provide constructive feedback on the proposal. Ex: the Graduate Writing Center, the Intensive English Program, the Office of National Scholarship Advisement, ORSP Research Development, internal or external members of the applicant’s dissertation or thesis committee, more advanced students in the applicant’s program, or postdocs in the applicant’s department.

3. Submit Your Fellowship or Grant Application

4. Submit your EFG Scholarship Proof of External Submission Including:
   - proof of successful submission of application to external funding opportunity
   - description of process and names of readers
   - copy of the submitted application

5. Receive your EFG Scholarship

The UM Graduate EFG Scholarship Program
UM ORSP Research Development and the Graduate School
Other Conditions and Payment of Incentive

The EFG Scholarship will be calculated as:

- 5% of the proposed external award amount, but not more than $1,000, for first-time submissions to a given funding opportunity
- 2.5% of the proposed external award, but not more than $500, for the 2nd submission to a funding opportunity for which a previous EFG Scholarship was received

Other Conditions:

- The funding applied for must be for a minimum of $10,000.
- The purposes of the fellowship or grant must be the conduct of research or creative scholarship and/or the dissemination of findings resulting from research or creative scholarship.
- Each student can receive a maximum of $1,000 from the EFG Scholarship program in a particular fiscal year

Payment of Incentive:

- EFG Scholarships will be processed as financial aid scholarships.
- Students must be eligible to receive this additional financial aid during the Fall or Spring term of the academic year in which the application was made. It is the responsibility of the student—not ORSP or the Graduate School—to predetermine their eligibility to receive the additional financial aid that this scholarship would represent. If in doubt, students are encouraged to contact the UM Office of Financial Aid to review their current aid package.
- Students who have reached cost-of-attendance limits due to loans will receive a reduction in the loan owed in the future (the scholarship will be applied to reduce the size of the loan) to ensure the student’s awarded aid does not exceed the cost of attendance in the semester in which the scholarship is applied.
- Students who have reached cost-of-attendance limits due to other fellowship and scholarship awards are generally ineligible to receive additional scholarships past the cost-of-attendance.
The UM Graduate EFG Scholarship Program
UM ORSP Research Development and the Graduate School
FAQ

Q: What if the grant or fellowship I want to apply for is not on the Pre-Approved List?

A: Not to worry! This is why we have the NOI. Email efgawards@olemiss.edu to introduce the funding you wish to apply for and you may be instructed to fill out an NOI for that funding. ORSP Research and Development wants to do everything we can to consider your desired funding.

Q: What if the deadline of my desired funding is less than 6 weeks before I can submit a NOI?

A: So sorry! We suggest checking out PIVOT Database or the Pre-Approved List to look for some new funding opportunities that might interest you.

Q: Where can I explore some external funding opportunities?

A: We recommend the PIVOT Database to find external funding opportunities. If you are having trouble fully utilizing PIVOT, don't hesitate to set up a meeting with ORSP Research Development or email orspresdev@olemiss.edu, and we can help you use PIVOT to its full potential.

Q: Can I still get EFG if my external funding application is declined?

A: Yes! The EFG Scholarship is an incentive to apply (and to submit an on-time application that is accepted by the sponsor for review). It is not contingent on your being selected for the external award.
Resource Links & Contact Info

EFG Homepage: https://orspresdev.olemiss.edu/efg/

InfoReady Review Portal: https://www.research.olemiss.edu/InfoReady

Pre-Approved List (PAL): https://orspresdev.olemiss.edu/pre-approved-efg-funding-opportunity-list/

PIVOT by ProQuest: https://pivot.proquest.com/dashboard

Please contact ORSP Research Development if you have any questions during your application process

ORSP Research Development

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For PIVOT related questions: orspresdev@olemiss.edu
For EFG related questions: efgawards@olemiss.edu

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UM ORSP Research Development and the Graduate School