Endowed Graduate Fellowships

Graduate students are the engine that drives all great modern universities. They educate and mentor undergraduate students, assist faculty with research and infuse departments with a welcome diversity of ideas. Graduate students are central to NC State’s reputation for excellence. They help NC State prepare an educated workforce and play a key role in the university’s ability to maintain a competitive edge in discovery and innovation.

Fellowships at NC State

NC State University is a premier center for graduate education, known globally for innovative degree programs that address real-world challenges. More than 9,000 graduate students from across the U.S. and 85 countries are pursuing master’s and doctoral degrees in more than 220 programs in all 12 colleges, 11 graduate programs are ranked among the top 30 in their field nationally according to U.S. News & World Report. Graduate students are drawn to NC State by the chance to work with our extraordinary faculty, our state-of-the-art research facilities, and partnerships with industry leaders throughout the Research Triangle and beyond.

Fellowships enable universities to attract the best and brightest graduate students. Departmental rankings, faculty recruitment and undergraduate education all depend on the presence of talented graduate students.

With significantly fewer endowed fellowships than peer institutions, NC State has relied historically on state and federal research grants to fund graduate positions. The variability of this support compromises NC State’s ability to plan effectively, resulting in the loss of graduate student talent as well as lost opportunities to pursue innovative research.

Competition for extraordinary graduate students is intense. Finances are often a deciding factor for students in choosing a graduate program. To recruit the best candidates and create a vibrant learning environment for undergraduates, NC State must be able to offer competitive graduate fellowships.

Increasing the number of endowed fellowships the university can offer is a key priority for The Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, the most ambitious fundraising effort in NC State history.
Fellowship Endowments
at NC State
NC State’s commitment is that every keen and curious mind has access to a superior education that transforms learning into contribution and hands-on experience into immediate and lasting results for a global society. Increasing the number of endowed fellowships for graduate students is therefore a top priority for Think and Do the Extraordinary: The Campaign for NC State.

By investing in graduate education, you help NC State grow in excellence and remain true to its land-grant mission by keeping the cost of education affordable. Graduate students represent future leaders for business, industry, government and academia. An investment in graduate education at NC State strengthens the pipeline for the innovation and discovery that will keep our state and nation strong.

There is no better legacy to NC State than a gift of endowment.

Why Endowments Matter
Endowments provide donors with opportunities to create living legacies. When you create an endowment, you touch the lives of future generations. Your gift is immediately invested and, when fully funded, produces annual income to support the endowment’s purpose for years to come. As fellowship endowments grow over time, they are able to support even more students or provide larger awards.

While cash gifts for current use are vitally important, endowments are the bedrock of all great universities. They provide certain, steady support in perpetuity. Funds invested in NC State endowments help to offset continued reductions in government support and enable us to plan for the future with greater predictability than otherwise possible.

Opportunities For Your Support
Endowed Graduate Fellowship
Your gift of $500,000 or more will support an extraordinary student in your choice of graduate program.

Endowed Graduate Fellowship Fund
Your gift of $150,000 or more will provide partial support for students in a graduate program of your choice. These funds may be used to address tuition as well as research and dissertation expenses, travel to professional conferences, and other activities essential to a quality graduate education.

Endowed fellowships are a wonderful way to honor your family or recognize someone special. Your gift may be designated for students in any graduate program at NC State. Endowment gifts may be pledged over a number of years and may be funded through cash gifts as well as planned or deferred gifts.