

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.



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