The Dr. Dionel Avilés ’53 and Dr. James Johnson ’67 Fellowship Program

Nomination Informational

Tuesday, November 28, 2023
10:30 am – 11:30 am CST
Nagle 113 and Zoom

Shannon D. Walton, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean
Graduate and Professional School

Isah Veronica D. Juranek, M.S.
Student Success Coordinator
Graduate and Professional School
• Avilés-Johnson Fellowship Program Nomination
  o Eligibility
  o Requirements
• Deadlines and Timeline
• Nomination Submission Process in InfoReady
• Questions
ELIGIBILITY

• Nominees must be **U.S. citizens** or **permanent residents** who will earn bachelor’s or master’s degrees no later than August 2024 and have applied for graduate admission to Texas A&M for the Summer or Fall 2024.

• While it is not required that nominees be admitted at the time of nomination, the nominating department is expected to offer admission to nominees and execute an "admit" decision code in the admission portal should they be awarded the fellowship.

• Master’s students currently enrolled at TAMU **are** eligible for doctoral nominations. They **are not** eligible for master’s nominations.

• Doctoral students currently enrolled at TAMU **are not** eligible for doctoral nominations.
ELIGIBILITY

Nominees should have a superior academic record and meet one or more of the following criteria:

1. Be a first-generation prospective graduate student;
2. Have a disability defined as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, as described in Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended;
3. Be a veteran of the U.S. military; or
ELIGIBILITY
Nominees should have a superior academic record and meet one or more of the following criteria:

4. Come from a disadvantaged background, as defined by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), for those who meet two or more of the following criteria:

- Were or are currently homeless, as defined by the McKinney-Vento Assistance Act;
- Were or are currently in the foster care system, as defined by the Administration for Children and Families;
- Were eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program for two or more years;
- Were or are currently eligible for Federal Pell grants;
- Received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) as a parent or child;
- Grew up in one of the following areas: (a) a U.S. rural area, as designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Rural Health Grants Eligibility Analyzer, or (b) a Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services-designated Low-Income and Health Professional Shortage Areas (qualifying zip codes are included here). Only one of the two possibilities (a or b) can be used as a criterion for the disadvantaged background definition.
ELIGIBILITY

In addition to meeting the stated criteria of eligibility, nominees for the 2024-2025 Avilés-Johnson Fellowship Program must be applying for enrollment in the following colleges/schools or interdisciplinary degree programs:

**Colleges/Schools:** Agriculture and Life Sciences, Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Bush School of Government and Public Service, Education and Human Development, Engineering, Mays Business School, Performance, Visualization and Fine Arts, Pharmacy, or Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

**Interdisciplinary Degree Programs:** Biotechnology, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Molecular and Environmental Plant Sciences, Genetics and Genomics, Neuroscience, Toxicology, or Water Management and Hydrological Science.
• A nomination letter clearly describing the nominee’s: 1) basis of eligibility, correlating to criteria items (1) - (4); 2) superior academic performance; 3) relevant experiences outside the classroom; and 4) other indicators of future success (no more than two (2) pages).

• [NEW] Personal statement from the nominee, addressing one of the following (no more than two (2) pages):
  o How has your background shaped your life or lived experience, impacted your development, motivation, academic interests and/or aspirations?
  o Have you encountered any unusual circumstances, challenges, or obstacles in your educational journey? If so, discuss how you persisted through them.
Nomination Packet Components

• Letters of Recommendation

  o For nominations of students **NOT** currently enrolled at Texas A&M:
    ▪ At least one, but no more than three (3), letters of recommendation for the nominee (no more than six (6) total pages).*

  o For nominations of students **currently** enrolled in a Texas A&M undergraduate program:
    ▪ At least one, but no more than three (3), letters of recommendation for the nominee (no more than six (6) total pages).*

  o For nominations of students **currently** enrolled in a Texas A&M master’s program:
    ▪ Two (2) new letters of recommendation for the student (no more than four (4) total pages).

*Letters of recommendation included in GraduateCAS, EngineeringCAS, or BusinessCAS application materials are sufficient.
• Nominee’s **resume** or curriculum vitae

• Copy of **transcripts** from all colleges or universities attended (excluding community colleges)

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*Example used: Doctoral Nomination Application*
Nomination Packet Components

- **Financial Commitment** summary noting the department/program’s financial offer to complement the collaborative funding package.**

**Information from the Financial Commitment will be entered directly into the InfoReady nomination application. A separate Financial Commitment document should not be uploaded.
• **Doctoral**
  - **Years 1-3:** $20,000 annual stipend, 25% or 50% assistantship, and tuition and required fees
  - **Year 4:** 50% assistantship (mandatory) and tuition and required fees
  - **Year 5 (optional):** 50% assistantship and tuition and required fees

• **Master’s**
  - **Years 1 and 2:** $15,000 annual stipend, 25% or 50% assistantship, and tuition and required fees

• **Mays Business School (MBA)**
  - **Year 1:** $15,000 stipend, approved scholarship, and tuition and required fees
  - **Year 2 (fall only):** $7,500 stipend, approved scholarship, and tuition and required fees

• **The Bush School of Government and Public Service (INTA and MPSA)**
  - **Years 1 and 2:** $15,000 stipend, approved scholarship, and tuition and required fees
### Financial Commitment Breakdown

**Example: Doctoral Nomination**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Monthly Assistantship Amount</th>
<th>%FTE (25 or 50)</th>
<th>Duration of Assistantship (9 or 12 months)</th>
<th>Total Annual Amount from Department / Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2024-2025</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025-2026</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2026-2027</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$13,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2027-2028</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2028-2029 (optional year)</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>$27,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GRAND TOTAL = $94,500**

*(Contribution from department/program) – DO NOT INCLUDE GRAD SCHOOL $20K STIPEND in years 1-3*
Evaluation Criteria

1. **Evidence of superior academic achievement** such as class rank; GPA; honors or other awards; etc.

2. **Relevant experiences outside of the classroom** such as extracurricular experiences related to course of study; leadership experiences; work experiences; military experiences; internships; personal history; international experiences (i.e., study abroad, semester at sea, etc.); research experiences (either at their own university or in summer undergraduate research opportunities at other universities); oral or poster presentations; publications; etc.

3. **Non-cognitive and personal attributes** that speak to the nominee’s research potential, adaptability, creativity, and collegiality; motivation and experience; persistence in and commitment to educational success; social and emotional skills and character traits; etc.
Graduate and Professional School

### Nominees, Offers, Accepts, and Enrolled

#### 2023-2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nominees</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offers</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepts</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepts (deferred)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled (deferred)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Enrolled (deferred)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2022-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Master’s [Round 2 only]</th>
<th>Doctoral [Round 1]</th>
<th>Doctoral [Round 2]</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nominees</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offers</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepts</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enrolled</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Enrolled (deferred)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Departments or Interdisciplinary Degree Programs may submit up to:

- **Fifteen (15)** doctoral nominations in either round 1 or round 2
- **Five (5)** master’s nominations in either round 1 or round 2

**Doctoral and master’s nominations may not be submitted to both rounds.**
Number of nomination submissions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>Allowed</th>
<th>Not Allowed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A department submits up to 15 doctoral nominations in Round 1 and up to 5 master’s nominations in Round 2.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A department submits up to 15 doctoral nominations in Round 1 and up to 5 master’s nominations in Round 1.</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A department decides to split up nominations and submit 9 doctoral nominations in Round 1 and 6 doctoral nominations in Round 2.</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A department submits 3 master’s nominations in Round 1 and 2 master’s nominations in Round 2. In addition, the same department submits up to 15 nominations in Round 1.</td>
<td>The <em>doctoral nomination submission</em> in this example is allowed because the doctoral nominations were submitted in 1 Round only.</td>
<td>Because the <em>master’s nomination submissions</em> were split up between both rounds, the master’s nominations in Round 2 will not be accepted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IMPORTANT!

Departments and Interdisciplinary Degree Programs (IDP) will need to identify which round they would like to submit doctoral (maximum 15) and master’s (maximum 5) nominations.

DECISION DEADLINE:
MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024

Doctoral and master’s nominations may not be submitted to both rounds.
**Nomination Submission Deadlines**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DEADLINE</strong></th>
<th><strong>DESCRIPTION</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Jan. 22 at 5pm CST</td>
<td>Doctoral/Master’s Round Selection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Feb. 2nd at 5pm CST</td>
<td>Nominations Round 1 submission deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Mar. 1st at 5pm CST</td>
<td>Nominations Round 2 submission deadline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nominators, graduate advisors, department heads, and graduate deans will be notified of which applicants have been selected for the Avilés-Johnson Fellowship **within three (3) weeks of the nomination deadline**.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Feb. 2(^{nd})</td>
<td><strong>Nomination submission deadline</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Feb. 7(^{th})</td>
<td>Reviewer assignments announced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Feb. 8(^{th})</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest – deadline (24-hour turnaround time)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Feb. 9(^{th}) – Thurs., Feb. 15(^{th})</td>
<td>Nomination review window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Feb. 15(^{th})</td>
<td>Reviews due from reviewers (scores and comments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Feb. 23(^{rd})</td>
<td><strong>Departmental award notifications emailed</strong> (includes students awarded as well as those not awarded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Feb. 29(^{th}) – Fri., Mar. 1(^{st})</td>
<td>Award letters emailed to students and CC nominator/DH/Graduate Advisor/GOC Dean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Apr. 1(^{st}) – Mon., Apr. 15(^{th})</td>
<td>Track responses from students (yes, no, no response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Apr. 15(^{th})</td>
<td>Deadline to accept fellowships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Mar. 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Nomination submission deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Mar. 6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Reviewer assignments announced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs, Mar. 7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest – deadline (24-hour turnaround time)</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Mar. 28&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; – Fri. Mar. 29&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Award letters emailed to students and CC nominator/DH/Graduate Advisor/GOC Dean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Apr. 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; – Sat., Apr. 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Track responses from students (yes, no, no response)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Apr. 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Deadline to accept fellowships</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
InfoReady application links will open mid-December 2023.

https://u.tamu.edu/AvilesJohnsonWebsite

Doctoral and master’s nominations may not be submitted to both rounds.
Nomination submissions will be completed in the **InfoReady** submission platform

[https://tamugrad.infoready4.com](https://tamugrad.infoready4.com)

Individuals completing the application will need to login via CAS and use Texas A&M net ID and password.
Nomination Submission Process in InfoReady

Graduate and Professional School

Friday, February 2, 2024

2024-2025 Dr. Dionel Añilves ‘53 and Dr. James Johnson ‘67 Fellowship Program (Doctoral Nominations – Round 1)

Nominations are due by 5 p.m. on the deadline date. If your nomination is submitted after the deadline, it will be considered for the next round of nominations. Nominations must be completed by a faculty member who knows the nominee well, and the nomination package must include all required documentation.

To learn more, please visit: https://agri.tamu.edu/ftn/fellowship-center/fellowship-and-benefits/what-is-the-avn-ayrs-johnson-fellowship

Please Note: Student self-nominations will not be considered.

Graduate and Professional School
204 Mem Hall
College Station, TX 77843

Graduate and Professional School
204 Mem Hall
College Station, TX 77843
**REMINDER:** Individuals completing the application will need to login via CAS and use Texas A&M net ID and password.
Application Sections:
- Submitter Information
- Nominee Information
- Financial Commitment Information
- Upload Information
- Notifications

Example used: Doctoral Nomination Application
Application Sections:
- Submitter Information
- Nominee Information
- Financial Commitment Information
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Application Sections:

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IMPORTANT: Please review all .pdfs prior to each nomination submission to ensure all documents are readable and complete.

Example used: Doctoral Nomination Application
**Application Sections:**
- Submitter Information
- Nominee Information
- Financial Commitment Information
- Upload Information
- Notifications

*Example used:* Doctoral Nomination Application
Preview the application:

- Before submitting the application should be reviewed.
- You have an option to “Edit” sections as needed.

**IMPORTANT:** The application is not considered submitted **until** the “Submit Application” button is clicked.
Save or submit an application:

- If all the information looks correct you have an option to "Save as Draft" or "Submit Application"

**IMPORTANT:** The application is not considered submitted until the "Submit Application" button is clicked.
What happens *after* nomination applications are submitted?

Department heads will **begin the approval process.**

- **Nomination Submitted**
- **Department Head (DH) Sign-Off via InfoReady**
- **Graduate Operations Committee (GOC) Dean Sign-Off via InfoReady**
- After nomination has been approved, application will move to the review process.

*Important*: Formal approval from DH and GOC Deans is not necessary by the nomination deadline or for the nomination submission to be deemed complete.
Important Updates to the Avilés-Johnson InfoReady Application:

AUTOMATIC ROUTING

• Based on the College/Department selected, the Department Head and GOC Dean will be automatically notified (i.e., DH and GOC names and email addresses are pre-loaded).

• Please double-check your selection accurately.

• Click “Save & Close” to make the appropriate College/Department selection.
What information will Department Heads and GOC Deans receive to complete the approval process?

Department Heads will receive an email from InfoReady to approve or deny the application from moving forward in the process. This will be completed in InfoReady.

After the Department Head approves nomination, the GOC Dean will receive an email notification from InfoReady to approve or deny in InfoReady.

Approved and completed applications will move forward to the review process.
Email notifications from InfoReady will come from the following sender and email address:

Texas A&M Graduate and Professional School
<support@inforeadyreview.com>
For questions about the Avilés-Johnson Fellowship Program, please contact:

grad-award-admin@tamu.edu
Questions?