MERITORIOUS AWARD NOTICE

November 2015

The Graduate School (GS) requests nominations for the Meritorious Award, to be awarded for Fall 2016 – Spring 2017. Specifically, $45K has been set aside to support these awards. The award disbursement amount will be $5K/award. The purpose of this award is to attract outstanding new graduate students and thus grow graduate student enrollment, which is in alignment with the university’s academic strategic plan. The Meritorious Award will be restricted to Ph.D. students with the majority of the awards (due to funding source restrictions) in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) disciplines. Funds will be awarded to qualified nominations as they are received. The program will remain open until all funds are exhausted but no later than the closing date of March 31, 2016.

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLY

The nominating department must provide the following information electronically to melisenda.edwards@montana.edu:

1. Student information:
   a. Name, telephone number, and email address
   b. Current GPA and other required scores (e.g., GREs, TOEFL, IELTS, and so forth)
   c. Department program and degree type being considered at MSU-Bozeman
   d. Current degree(s) and name(s) of institution(s) where degree(s) was (were) conferred
2. Letter of support from the nominating MSU faculty
3. The budget/fiscal administrator who will handle the funds transfer

MECHANISM FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THE AWARD

• Nominating faculty can submit nominations from November 20, 2015 up to the end of March 2016 for Fall 2016 admission. The award is for new Ph.D. students in Fall 2016.
• Students do not have to formally apply to The Graduate School to be nominated for the award. However, if an award is made, the student must complete the application process, be fully admitted to MSU, and attend MSU Bozeman.
• In the event that the student has declined admission or has deferred to the spring term, the funding will return to the general pool. The Graduate School then may offer the award to an alternate nominee, who may or may not be an applicant in the same department.
• The award (a onetime payment) will be dispersed to the student’s account. These funds typically are available after the first week of classes in the fall 2016 term.