

American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

Graduate Fellowships 2010 Guidelines

The American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) awards graduate fellowships to individuals who have exhibited the potential to make contributions to the family and consumer sciences profession. Individuals who receive a graduate fellowship will receive financial support for the study of family and consumer sciences and a commemorative certificate. The name of the recipient and fellowship won will be reported in the AAFCS Annual Conference Program Book. Also, recipients of some fellowships will receive support toward one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference & Exposition, where the fellowship award will be presented.

The field of family and consumer sciences (FCS) encompasses the study of relationships among people and their personal environments in order to strengthen communities and advance the well-being of individuals and families over their lifespan. FCS is rooted in the arts, social and natural sciences, and humanities. In order to address challenges related to the health of individuals, families, and communities, FCS uses integrative, interdisciplinary approaches that consider individuals and families in the context of their environments.

Eligibility

Before completing a fellowship application, a potential applicant should consider the following **eligibility requirements, keeping in mind that there are two types of fellowships, national and international:**

- To qualify for the national fellowships, an applicant must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.

To qualify for the AAFCS-Kittrell (when offered) and D. Elizabeth Williams International Graduate Fellowships, an applicant must be a citizen of a country other than the United States.

To qualify for the Helen Strow (when offered) and Ethel L. Parker International Graduate Fellowships, an applicant can be a student from another country **or** a citizen of the United States who has specific goals related to study in another country.

Note: Applicants from the U.S. must be approved to study at a selected international university.

International applicants must have been approved for a visa to study in the U.S. International applicants must have completed the maximum preparation offered in a field of study in his or her home country.

Exceptions may be made for applicants from countries where little or no college preparation in family and consumer sciences is available.

- Applicant is planning to pursue or is currently pursuing a degree in family and consumer sciences or related specialized programs at the graduate level and is planning to be enrolled for the academic year making satisfactory progress.
- Applicant is currently enrolled in a graduate program that will continue into the coming academic year, has been admitted to a graduate program for the coming academic year, or has applied for admission to begin graduate study.
- Applicant does meet or is willing to meet the specific requirements of the fellowship(s) for which he or she applies (see section titled *Graduate Fellowships for the 2010-2011 Academic Year*).

Applicants who meet all requirements for a particular fellowship are eligible to apply for that fellowship but are not guaranteed financial assistance. **Preference will be given to individuals who have accomplished the following:**

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- At the beginning of the academic year for which the fellowship would be granted, applicant will have completed at least one year of professional family and consumer sciences experience, serving in a professional role or in positions such as a graduate/undergraduate assistant, trainee, or intern.
- Applicant is working on a research problem **or** can describe a potential research problem for his or her graduate work.
- Applicant is interested in making a contribution to the family and consumer sciences profession in the United States, his or her home country, or in international programs.

Former recipients of AAFCS Graduate Fellowships may apply for another year of fellowship funding if they meet the criteria of the fellowship(s) for which they are applying, but former recipients are not guaranteed another fellowship. No student will be awarded more than one graduate fellowship in a given year. Fellowships will be awarded only if qualified applicants are identified. Only qualified applicants who receive a score of 80% or more of the highest score are eligible to receive an AAFCS Graduate Fellowship. Members of the AAFCS Board of Directors, Awards and Recognition Committee, and Development Committee are not eligible to apply during their terms of office. AAFCS staff members are not eligible to apply during their periods of employment with the Association.

Graduate Fellowships for the 2010-2011 Academic Year

National Fellowships

Mary Josephine Cochran National Graduate Fellowship

The Mary Josephine Cochran Fellowship was created in 1988 with a bequest from Mary Josephine Cochran, an instructor at several universities, a bank officer and director, and an active AAFCS member from West Virginia. A \$5,000 fellowship and up to \$1,000 of support for one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference will be awarded to **no more than one (1) qualified graduate student pursuing a degree in textiles and clothing.**

Cutler-DeKnight National Graduate Fellowship

Virginia F. Cutler honored colleagues Dr. Cutler and Dr. Canoyer by creating a fellowship fund. The Cutler-DeKnight Fellowship also honors Freda A. DeKnight, food and home service editor of EBONY magazine and first commentator for the "Ebony Fashion Fair." A \$5,000 fellowship and up to \$1,000 of support for one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference will be awarded to **no more than one (1) African-American or minority graduate student pursuing a family and consumer sciences degree. Preference will be given to candidates planning a career in family and consumer sciences communication or Cooperative Extension.**

Dye-Leverton National Graduate Fellowship

The Dye-Leverton Fellowship honors Marie Dye and Ruth Leverton by providing a graduate fellowship for doctoral study in family and consumer sciences. An active member of AAFCS, Marie Dye served as dean of the College of Home Economics at Michigan State University for 30 years beginning in 1926. Dr. Leverton was a nutrition scientist who served as a teacher and administrator. A \$5,000 fellowship and up to \$1,000 of support for one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference will be awarded to **no more than one (1) doctoral level graduate student pursuing a family and consumer sciences degree or a related specialization such as nutrition science.**

Hazel Putnam Roach National Graduate Fellowship

A bequest from the estate of Hazel Putnam Roach, a field secretary for the Association during the 1930s and the director of family and consumer sciences education in Grand Rapids, Michigan, provides the financial

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support for this fellowship. A \$5,000 fellowship and up to \$1,000 of support for one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference will be awarded to **no more than one (1) graduate student pursuing a master's degree in any area of family and consumer sciences at an AAFCS accredited institution. Preference will be given to students with high academic achievements and financial need.**

Jewell L. Taylor National Graduate Fellowship

The Taylor Fellowship was established through a generous bequest from Jewell L. Taylor, a dedicated family and consumer sciences professional for more than 50 years. She held positions as a county home demonstration agent and utility home economist, continuing her interest in AAFCS until her death. A \$5,000 fellowship and up to \$1,000 of support for one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference will be awarded to **up to five (5) qualified graduate students pursuing a degree in family and consumer sciences.**

Margaret E. Terrell National Graduate Fellowship

The Terrell Fellowship is supported by a gift from the AAFCS Washington Affiliate, as well as contributions from Margaret Terrell and University of Washington Dietetics alumni. Margaret E. Terrell was recognized for expertise in food service systems management. A \$5,000 fellowship and up to \$1,000 of support for one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference will be awarded to **no more than one (1) graduate student studying institutional management or food service systems administration.**

International Graduate Fellowships

Ethel L. Parker International Graduate Fellowship

Ethel L. Parker, an active member of AAFCS and head of Home Economics Education at the University of Kentucky, established the Parker International Fellowship. A \$5,000 fellowship and up to \$1,000 of support for one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference will be awarded to **no more than one (1) FCS graduate student from the U.S. who participates in international study or an international graduate student who studies family and consumer sciences in the U.S.**

D. Elizabeth Williams International Graduate Fellowship

This fellowship was established by D. Elizabeth Williams, an Extension home economist. A \$5,000 fellowship and up to \$1,000 of support for one year of AAFCS membership and participation in the AAFCS Annual Conference will be awarded to **no more than one (1) international student who desires to study family and consumer sciences in the United States, preferably at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.**

Application Process

To apply for a 2010 AAFCS Graduate Fellowship, complete five steps by **January 15, 2010**:

Step 1 – Read the 2010 AAFCS Graduate Fellowships Guidelines.

Step 2 – Visit the Frequently Asked Questions page at <http://www.aafcs.org/programs/faqs.html>.

Step 3 – Have a maximum of three (3) evaluators prepare a recommendation for the applicant by completing the [2010 AAFCS Graduate Fellowships Recommendation Form](#) (found in the Awards section of the AAFCS website) and returning the completed recommendation form to the applicant.

Step 4 – Obtain official or unofficial copies of undergraduate and graduate (if applicable) transcripts.

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Step 5 – Complete and submit the interactive 2010 AAFCS Graduate Fellowships Application online (found at <http://precis.preciscentral.com/User/UserLogin.asp?EventID=05049e90>). As indicated in the application, upload the following **by January 15, 2010** or earlier:

- A. Resume that includes the following: educational background (include GPA on a 4-point scale), professional experiences and responsibilities (include graduate assistantships if relevant), special recognition and/or awards received and include dates (e.g., honors, awards, scholarships, grant proposals funded, and stipends), participation in volunteer and community service activities, and professional and leadership development activities, such as student organizations..
- B. Recommendation forms (scan, if necessary, and upload).
- C. Graduate (if applicable) and undergraduate transcripts (scan, if necessary, and upload).
(To submit the attachments described in A., B., and C., you may upload Microsoft Word 97-2003 documents (.doc), JPEG images (.jpg), and Adobe Acrobat documents (.pdf) up to 3 megabytes.)

Note: You may have submitted an online application for grants, fellowships, or scholarships, or a proposal for the AAFCS conference during the last five years. If so, you used an e-mail address and created a password to access that system. You may use the same e-mail address and password to submit a 2010 AAFCS fellowship application if the e-mail address is still active. Otherwise, you can create an account after you click on the link above.

Please keep a copy of all materials submitted to AAFCS; materials will not be returned to applicants.

Review Process

Jurors selected by the AAFCS Awards and Recognition Committee review the applications online and assign points using the Evaluation Criteria (see section titled *Evaluation Criteria*). Individuals who apply for a 2010 AAFCS Graduate Fellowship and those who write a letter of recommendation for a current applicant cannot serve as jurors for fellowships. Additionally, jurors cannot judge applications from family members, their current students, students at their own institution, applicants who have the same employer, or any applicant for whom there may be a potential conflict of interest. An individual who has been nominated and/or applied for an award, grant, fellowship, or scholarship shall not serve as a juror for any award, grant, fellowship, or scholarship during the period of time in which his or her own nomination or application is being judged.

Fellowship recipients will be announced in the spring of the year awarded.

Duties and Responsibilities

AAFCS Graduate Fellowships are awarded for the *sole* purpose of providing financial support for academic study in a field of family and consumer sciences. The following will be the responsibilities of those who are *chosen to receive an AAFCS Graduate Fellowship*:

- Fellowship funds will be sent to a university scholarship officer as designated in the acceptance forms that must be completed by AAFCS Graduate Fellowship recipients.
- A college or university scholarship officer or academic advisor at the institution where the fellowship recipient is enrolled will verify enrollment and eligibility prior to accepting and disbursing the fellowship to the student in installments—the student must remain enrolled to receive fellowship funds.
- At the end of the academic year, the student is required to submit a brief email report that indicates how the AAFCS Graduate Fellowship funds were used.

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Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated online using the point system outlined below and can be awarded no more than 100 points unless full bonus credential and membership points are awarded, in which case 110 points are the maximum that can be awarded. Guidelines as to what jurors may consider for each criterion are listed for clarity in preparing the application and consistency in judging applications.

Evaluation Criteria	Points Possible	Points Awarded
Experience in relation to preparation for study in proposed field.	15	_____
Significance of proposed study or research interests to families and individuals.	15	_____
Professional goals.	15	_____
Ability to pursue graduate study.	10	_____
Voluntary participation in professional/community organizations and activities.	10	_____
Evidence (or degree) of professional commitment and leadership.	10	_____
Written communication (clearly stated and concise with correct grammar, etc.).	10	_____
Evaluation of applicant's references and recommendations.	10	_____
Special recognition and awards.	5	_____
SUBTOTAL	100	_____
BONUS POINTS		
As of the due date of application, applicant holds AAFCS credential(s) in family and consumer sciences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences (CFCS), • Certified in Human Development and Family Studies (CFCS-HDFS), and/or • Certified in Hospitality, Nutrition and Food Science (CFCS-HNFS). 	5 [†]	_____
As of the due date of application, applicant has been an AAFCS member For <u>up to two</u> years.	2 [†]	_____
For <u>two or more</u> years.	5 [†]	_____
TOTAL POSSIBLE	110	_____

[†]Partial points are not awarded for credentials and membership.

Recommend for a fellowship? Yes No

If yes, which fellowship?

A qualified applicant can receive a maximum of one fellowship. In case the applicant does not receive your first choice above, please list your other fellowship recommendations.

Comments to be shared with other jurors:

Comments to be shared with applicant:

Signature of Juror: _____

Date: _____