

Fellowship Period

The normal period for a graduate student to receive a Festa Fellowship will be one semester or a full summer session. Normally the fellowship recipient will not be enrolled in other graduate coursework during the fellowship period, and the fellowship recipient will be expected to dedicate themselves full-time to their fellowship during the award period.

Fellowship Stipend

The fellowship award may be from \$5,000 to \$10,000, depending on the scope and merit of the graduate student's proposal. Fellowship stipends will be commensurate with the length of the program of study and the related expenses justified in the proposal budget.

A fellowship recipient may be eligible to receive some credit for the fellowship experience at the discretion of the graduate program in which they are matriculated, but credit is not the primary purpose of the fellowship program.

Application Process

Graduate students wishing to apply for the Festa Fellowships should develop a plan of study approved by the organizational leader with whom they wish to work and by their graduate program director. The applicant must also include a brief 500-word essay explaining what leadership experiences the applicant hopes to gain from the proposed fellowship and how the experience will help to advance their future career goals. Each applicant must also provide at least two other letters of recommendation specifically addressing their candidacy for the Festa Fellowship. The proposal must provide a budget justifying the amount of the fellowship stipend up to \$10,000 for the period of the fellowship.

Budget Proposal

The goals of the Festa Leadership Fellowship assume that the award recipient may need to relocate for the semester or summer term of the fellowship, so living expenses may be justified in the application. The amount of the stipend will take into account the appropriate expenses necessitated by the fellowship.

Review Process

All Festa Fellowship applications will be reviewed by a committee of the SUNY Oswego Graduate Program Directors who will rank the proposals and forward the recommendations to the Dean of Graduate Studies who will make the final decision about fellowship award recipients.

Fellowship Reports

All Festa Fellows will provide a final written report on their leadership experiences to the dean and their graduate program director to be shared with program faculty and other graduate students. Fellowship recipients will also be expected to make a presentation at a departmental symposium, an appropriate professional conference, or at the annual Quest Symposium. The presentation will focus on their learning experiences as a Festa Fellow. Normally a report will also be featured in Campus Update and the Oswego Alumni magazine and a summary report will be given to Mr. Festa.



The Festa Graduate Leadership Fellowships are funded through the generous support of Fred Festa, a SUNY Oswego graduate in Business Administration from the class of 1981, and Mary Lynn Barbero Festa, Oswego class of 1982 with a BS in Elementary Education.

BRIDGE THE GAP



Purpose

The purpose of the Festa Fellowship is to provide a unique, professional leadership experience in a field of interest chosen by the graduate students selected for the awards.

The Festa Fellowships will provide stipends of up to \$10,000 to support outstanding graduate students who wish to pursue advanced leadership experiences in their fields, by, for example, shadowing a corporate CEO or other organizational leader, by working on a public policy issue with a legislator or public official, or by developing a significant project for a non-profit organization. These fellowships are not designed to be traditional internship experiences; they are intended to give the recipient exceptional and unique leadership experiences.

The Festa Fellowships will offer qualified Oswego graduate students a special opportunity to model effective leadership styles and practices in a variety of organizations and settings. According to Bill George, a prominent leadership expert at Harvard Business School, truly authentic leaders demonstrate the following traits: pursuing their purpose with passion, practicing solid values, leading with their hearts as well as their heads, establishing connected relationships, and demonstrating self-discipline. The major goal of this fellowship program is to provide a mentored experience that will help the recipients advance to leadership positions in their chosen field.

Qualifications

The Festa Graduate Leadership Fellowship Program will seek accomplished, motivated individuals who are eager to prepare themselves for greater leadership responsibilities within their communities and professions. Applicants will propose self-designed learning experiences to help them attain leadership goals they have set for themselves. The program will expand fellows' experiences to new learning environments that would be inaccessible without a fellowship.

Advanced graduate students matriculated in any graduate degree program offered at SUNY Oswego will be eligible to apply for the Festa Graduate Leadership Fellowship. The fellowships will be competitive and superior graduate students will be encouraged to apply.

Application Deadline

Application materials will be obtained from the SUNY Oswego Graduate Office. All fellowship applications must be submitted to the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, 602 Culkin Hall, SUNY Oswego, Oswego, NY 13126 by February 15th each year to be considered for a fellowship during the following summer or the next academic year.

Contact Information

For more information on the Festa Graduate Leadership Fellowship, contact Dr. David King, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at 315-312-3692 or gradoff@oswego.edu

Festa Graduate
Leadership Fellowship

