Program Details

The Clean Energy Institute Graduate Fellows Program provides UW students the opportunity to help shape the clean energy future of the Pacific Northwest and the global energy economy by advancing next generation solar energy and electrical energy storage materials, devices and systems.

The program provides two quarters of salary support during the 2015-2016 academic year, and the designation as a CEI Graduate Fellow to pursue Ph.D. research in CEI focus areas of solar energy conversion, energy storage, and grid integration technologies. Students may also apply for travel grant funding to attend conferences and present research results.

Through the Institute, Graduate Fellows have opportunities to participate in social and networking events, poster sessions, communications workshops, volunteer opportunities and community outreach, industry field trips, and lab tours throughout the year. The CEI Interdisciplinary Seminar Series provides Fellows the chance to host and meet internationally renowned experts, while connecting with peers across the university.

Qualifications

Outstanding candidates will demonstrate potential for research excellence, proposed research project relevant to the CEI mission areas, and evidence they will be active participants and leaders within the broader CEI community.

Application

See reverse for details on award, application requirements, evaluation and award criteria. To submit an application, visit www.cei.washington.edu/grad-fellowships.

All application materials must be submitted by 9:00 pm on July 31, 2015.
Applications are solicited from eligible students for CEI Graduate Fellowships. This program will provide two quarters of salary support during the 2015-2016 academic year, and the designation as a CEI Graduate Fellow to pursue Ph.D. research in CEI-focused areas.

Objective & Focus
The goal of the Graduate Fellow encourage excellence in research and education by supporting highly talented, motivated, and engaged graduate students to work on CEI-related topics. It is expected that eligible students will apply for a graduate research fellowship (e.g. DOE, NSF, NDSEG, etc.) the following fall. Cross-departmental student-advisor pairings and co-advising are allowed and encouraged, but not required.

While the project must be directed at one of the three core CEI research areas (solar, storage, grid systems), the emphasis for the selection process for this fellowship is not the project, but the demonstrated merit of the student.

Financial Support
RA salary provided for two quarters during the period from September 15, 2015 through June 15, 2016 at departmental salary rate. No materials and supplies or equipment will be provided. fellows may hold the honorific title of CEI Fellow at the same time as an NSF, DoD, NDSEG or other external fellowship, but may not accept CEI Fellowship funding in an amount that would increase their pay beyond their standard departmental RA rate.

Eligibility
To be eligible for fellowships during the 2015-2016 academic year, students must have begun their graduate study between June 1, 2012 and September 31, 2014, and should not be planning to graduate before June 15, 2016. Students who have received CEI recruiting fellowships in the past may apply; however, previous CEI Graduate Fellows are not eligible.

No more than 3 students may apply from a single research group. In the event that more than one student from a single research group applies, the advisor must rank order nominees from their group in terms of combined overall potential for excellence in research and service.

Application Requirements & Deadline
Students should apply directly. The application should consist of: (i) a 150 (max) word statement of the student’s anticipated research during the award period, (ii) a 50 word (max) statement regarding the student’s graduation timeline and career goals; (iii) a CV (not to exceed two pages) listing undergraduate GPA, UW graduate GPA, publications, presentations, awards, and participation in education and broader community activities; (iv) two letters of reference, at least one of which is from a UW faculty member.

Materials from the student and department must be submitted online by July 31, 2015.

Evaluation & Announcement Date
Evaluation criteria will include, but are not limited to: (i) demonstrated potential for research excellence, (ii) relevance of the proposed research project to the CEI mission areas, (iii) evidence that the fellow is (or will become) an active participant and leader in the broader CEI community.

Final decisions will be announced by August 21, 2015.

Award Criteria
As a condition of the award, all award recipients will participate in the CEI fellows onboarding and public communications workshops to be held in Fall 2015 and register for the 1-unit CEI seminar during 2015-2016. Fellows are also expected to work with the CEI education director in support of broader CEI education activities, and will prepare a product of lasting value (instructional video, demonstration, lesson, or lab signage) that supports the educational mission, and will be required to submit a one-page project summary at the end of the project, both due by June 15, 2016.

All presentations and publications produced with support from a fellowship should include the acknowledgement “This material is based in part upon work supported by the State of Washington through the University of Washington Clean Energy Institute.”

Apply Now
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www.cei.washington.edu/grad-fellowships