

**2024-2025 GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS  
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

**AWARD WINNERS WILL BE RECOGNIZED IN AN AWARD CEREMONY TO BE HELD  
IN SPRING 2025**

**Submissions due January 9, 2025, by 12:00 noon.**

**PURPOSE**

## **GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATION SUBMISSION**

Successful nominees must submit a clear and well-organized nomination package **IN A SINGLE PDF DOCUMENT** (you can combine PDF files for free here <https://www.adobe.com/acrobat/online/merge-pdf.html>). Faculty reviewers will be from many different fields across the University; therefore, the Project Summary or Teaching Statement should be written in plain English that is clear and unambiguous so that the proposal is understandable to

**Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae: 2-page maximum (one-inch margins, single spaced, 12 pt. font)**

If nominated for a teaching or teaching assistant award, the CV should list the courses you have taught.

**Project Summary or Teaching Statement: 1-page maximum (one-inch margins, single spaced, 12 pt. font)**

*Teaching statement (teaching/teaching assistant awards only):* For the teaching and teaching assistant awards, a one-page teaching statement is required. This statement should not repeat the list of courses taught from your CV; it should instead give the committee insight into how you approach teaching and how this helps students learn. An effective teaching statement describes your philosophy toward teaching in general, and gives specific examples based on how you teach, your interactions with students, or your own experiences as a student. This should be an organized piece of writing similar to what you would submit when applying for jobs, and there are many online resources with ideas about what to include.

*Project summary (all other awards):* This should include an abstract or summary of the research or creative scholarship, thesis or dissertation, or engagement and social advocacy activity for which the student is being nominated. For the engagement/social advocacy award, the nominee should demonstrate the impact of the activity and the ability to sustain or replicate it.

**Appendices:**

Nominees must submit evidence of their accomplishments. Examples include published articles, drafts, conference proceedings or presentations, and a thesis or dissertation. Other examples of evidence that may be included in this section: impact factor and other evidence of journal quality for published articles, number of citations or downloads of published articles, evidence of peer review and acceptance rates for journal articles and conference presentations, evidence of awards and recognitions or grants earned, evidence of the significance of the contribution to the field and/or the impact on students (e.g., teaching evaluations, course improvements, letters of support, or evidence of innovation and creativity in research, creative scholarship, engagement or social advocacy, or in the classroom) or the community (e.g., letters from professionals or community members substantiating the nominee's contributions to engagement and social advocacy, or evidence of innovation and creativity).

## **CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS**

### **CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

This award recognizes and rewards graduate students for sustained and substantial creative scholarship contributions in their field of study. This award is intended to reward substantial creative scholarship achievements including, but not limited to a thesis, dissertation, capstone project, non-graded work, or work completed outside or above and beyond core curricular classwork. The creative scholarship must have been conducted while a graduate student at Cleveland State University. This category is only for those disciplines in which research is not the norm (e.g., exhibitions of visual art, publications of fiction).

One Outstanding Achievement award and one Excellent Achievement award will be granted to a doctoral or master's student in the following category:

Creative Scholarship (This category is only for those disciplines in which research is not the norm (e.g., exhibitions of visual art, publications of fiction)).

## **AWARDS**

These awards are granted to graduate students for research that is being conducted for a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation which has the potential to make a substantial contribution to their field.

A total of eight awards will be granted as follows: one Outstanding Master's and one Outstanding Doctoral Research Award and one Excellent Master's and one Excellent Doctoral Research Award will be granted in each category below:

Research in Natural Sciences (incl. Health Sciences), Engineering, and Mathematics  
Research in Law, Education, Social Sciences, Arts, Humanities, and Business

## **TEACHING AWARDS**

### **Graduate Student Teaching Award**

These awards are granted to two graduate students who have demonstrated extraordinary performance in teaching as the instructor of record. The successful nominees will demonstrate the ability to facilitate student learning, the willingness and ability to solicit and reflect on feedback about teaching and implement changes for improvement, excellent knowledge and enthusiasm for course subject matter, and the ability to utilize a variety of teaching strategies appropriate to the course content.

## **Graduate Student Teaching Assistant Award**

These awards are granted to two graduate students who have demonstrated excellence in assisting the course instructor of record as a course grader, course tutor, review session instructor, lab instructor, or in another supportive teaching role. The successful nominee will demonstrate the ability to facilitate student learning, the willingness and ability to solicit and reflect on feedback about teaching and implement changes for improvement, and excellent knowledge and enthusiasm for the course subject matter.

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NOMINATION COVER PAGE**

**Student Information**

*Name of Graduate Student*

*CSU ID*

*Degree Seeking Program Name*

*Degree (please check one)*

*College Name*

Master's Degree

Doctoral Degree

*Address Line 1*

