Graduate Awards and Fellowships

Graduate Dean’s Award (GDA)
The GDA seeks to enhance KSU’s recruitment of academically excellent incoming students with diverse backgrounds.

Award and Eligibility:
$5,000 distributed over two academic years (four consecutive semesters $1,250 per semester).
- An applicant to a master’s or doctoral degree program;
- A U.S. citizen (or national) or a permanent resident of the U.S; and
- A member of an underrepresented group in their discipline (e.g., women in traditionally male-dominated disciplines, McNair Scholars, individuals with disabilities, ethnic/racial minorities).
- Full-time enrollment required.
More details and application instructions can be found at https://www.kent.edu/graduatecollege/gda

Graduate Dean’s Travel Award (GDTA)
The GDTA assists applicants with the costs of travel to Kent for campus interviews and visits; this award seeks to enhance Kent State University’s recruitment of academically excellent students with diverse backgrounds.

Award and Eligibility:
GDTA’s are offered at two levels ($400 and $200), depending on cost of travel.
- An applicant to a master’s or doctoral degree program;
- A U.S. citizen (or national) or a permanent resident of the U.S; and
- A member of an underrepresented group in their discipline (e.g., women in traditionally male-dominated disciplines, McNair Scholars, individuals with disabilities, ethnic/racial minorities).
More details and application instructions can be found at https://www.kent.edu/graduatecollege/gdta

David B. Smith Scholarship
The David B. Smith Scholarship is presented annually to recognize exceptional scholarship and teaching.

Award and Eligibility:
Recipients receive a $500 monetary award.
- Must be a currently enrolled graduate degree-seeking student.
- Minimum graduate GPA of 3.5; full-time enrollment required.
More details and application instructions can be found at https://www.kent.edu/graduatecollege/smith-award

Mary Ann Stephens and John R. Graham Award
The Mary Ann Stephens and John R. Graham Award for Excellence in Graduate Research and Scholarship is presented annually to a doctoral student underrepresented in their discipline.

Award and Eligibility:
Recipients receive a $500 monetary award.
- Must be a currently enrolled full-time doctoral student.
- U.S. citizen (or national) or a permanent resident of the U.S.
- From a group that is considered underrepresented (e.g., women in traditionally male-dominated disciplines, individuals with disabilities, and ethnic/racial minorities).
- Preference given to graduate students pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy degree from STEM disciplines (as defined by the National Science Foundation).
More details and application instructions can be found at https://www.kent.edu/graduatecollege/mary-ann-stephens-and-john-r-graham-award

Direct questions to the website or email graduatecollege@kent.edu
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Lillian Friedman Scholarship
The Lillian Friedman Scholarship is presented to recognize an outstanding graduate student contributing to the area of mental health.

Award and Eligibility:
Recipients receive a $1,000 monetary award.
- Must be a currently enrolled graduate degree-seeking student.
- Thesis or dissertation research in progress.
- Studying a significant topic in mental health.
- Minimum graduate GPA of 3.5.
More details and application instructions can be found at https://www.kent.edu/graduatecollege/friedman-award

Reuter Fellowship in Developmental Sciences
The Reuter Fellowship provides recipients with an academic year non-service appointment to allow for full-time work on the dissertation.

Award and Eligibility:
Recipients receive a non-service fellowship appointment for the academic year in the amount of $12,000.
- Must be a currently enrolled full-time doctoral student.
- Admitted to candidacy by date of application.
- Enrollment in Dissertation I or II.
- Study on a topic directly bearing on human development.
- Minimum graduate GPA of 3.5.
More details and application instructions can be found at https://www.kent.edu/graduatecollege/reuter-fellowship

University Fellowship
The University Fellowship is awarded annually to advanced doctoral students to recognize excellent scholarship and research potential.

Award and Eligibility:
University Fellowship recipients receive a doctoral level service appointment for Fall semester (from department) and a non-service University Fellowship appointment for Spring semester (from the Graduate College).
- Full-time doctoral status.
- Admitted to candidacy by date of nomination.
- Enrollment in Dissertation II during Fall and Spring semesters of the fellowship year.
- Outstanding scholarship and research potential.
Nominations and Selections:
- Students must be nominated by their program/department. Graduate coordinators should submit all nominations to the Graduate College.
- Nomination window will open the first week in January & are due by midnight on February 15.
- All nominees are reviewed by a committee comprised of faculty representing various ranks and disciplines. Recipients are selected by the Dean of the Graduate College.
More details and nomination instructions can be found at https://www.kent.edu/graduatecollege/university-fellowship

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