Transformational Initiative for Graduate Education & Research (TIGER)
Request for Applications
Graduate Research Fellowships (GRF)

INTRODUCTION

The overall goals of the Transformational Initiative for Graduate Education and Research (TIGER) program of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (UPRM) are to: a) Expand Post-baccalaureate educational opportunities for and improve the academic attainment of low-income Hispanic students, and b) Provide and enhance the academic offerings and infrastructure that will allow low-income Hispanic students to complete their degree as established by the curriculum.

In order to promote attainment and prompt completion of the graduate degree, the TIGER program aims to provide financial support to outstanding graduate students enrolled in the recently established engineering graduate programs. With this objective in mind, a Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) program will be implemented to support up to six graduate students per year.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This specific request for applications of the GRF program will grant one $15,000 yearly award ($1,250.00 per month) for graduate students enrolled in one of the following graduate programs: a) Doctoral Program in Mechanical Engineering, b) Doctoral Program in Electrical Engineering, c) Masters Program in Material Sciences and d) Graduate Program in Bioengineering (PhD and MS). Students must be working on research projects related to aerospace engineering or bioengineering. The UPRM will provide tuition waiver for all TIGER-GRF awardees.

Fellowships will be awarded for up to one and a half years, as long as students demonstrate significant progress towards completion of their degrees. Awardees are required to participate in the TIGER program educational activities. The starting date for these fellowships will be September 15, 2018.
WHO MAY APPLY

The GRF program is open for full-time graduate students enrolled in one of the following graduate programs: a) Doctoral Program in Mechanical Engineering, b) Doctoral Program in Electrical Engineering, c) Masters Program in Material Sciences and d) Graduate Program in Bioengineering (PhD and MS). Specific eligibility requirements are:
1. US citizenship.
2. Demonstrate economic need (need to fill FAFSA form).
3. Students must be working on supervised research projects related to aerospace engineering or bioengineering.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

All application packages should be in English and must include:
1. A one-page statement of purpose including reasons to perform research work in aerospace engineering or bioengineering.
2. Current résumé with complete references of publications.
4. Demonstrate economic need as evidenced by the evaluation of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form.
5. One letter of recommendation from faculty member.

Application submission due date is Friday, August 31, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. EST. Awards will be announced on September 7, 2018. Application packages are to be submitted electronically at: tiger@uprm.edu.

The recommender can submit letters of recommendations separately. For more information contact us at: tiger@uprm.edu.

SELECTION CRITERIA

A faculty committee will evaluate all applications and GRF awardees will be selected according to the following criteria:
1. GPA
2. Research portfolio
3. Personal statement
4. Potential for success in graduate school
5. Recommendation and support letter from faculty member