



Center for Inclusive Education

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To: Graduate Program Directors, Graduate Program Coordinators
From: Karian Wright, Director, Center for Inclusive Education
Date: July 13, 2026
Subject: **2026 DR. W. BURGHARDT TURNER FELLOWSHIP - LIMITED SECOND ROUND**

The Center for Inclusive Education is pleased to announce a limited, second round call for nominations for the Dr. W. Burghardt Turner Fellowship. **Departments may nominate up to two, doctoral/medical level candidates for the Turner program as part of this call.** Nominees must already be admitted for doctoral or medical study with funding and have accepted Stony Brook's offer of admission with the intent to enroll in the Fall 2026 semester.

If you wish to nominate the same student(s) for the Turner Fellowship as you did in the previous call, you do not have to submit a new nomination. If you or the nominee(s) wish to update/edit information previously submitted, please let us know.

Mission

The Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program, known as the Dr. W. Burghardt Turner Fellowship at Stony Brook University, is funded by the SUNY Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI). The Turner Fellowship is designed to direct aid to graduate/professional students who have demonstrated academic achievement and overcome a disadvantage or other impediment to success in higher education. Candidates will contribute to the diversity of the student body by demonstrating their commitment to facilitating and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in their academic programs and activities. This fellowship is one of the many programs coordinated by the Center for Inclusive Education (CIE) under the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Intercultural Initiatives (DI3) and in close connection with the Graduate School.

Nominee Eligibility

To participate in the Turner Fellowship, candidates are required to meet the following criteria:

1. United States Citizen or Permanent Resident
2. Have received an offer of admission to the Stony Brook University graduate or professional program prior to the student's nomination
3. Demonstrate how they have overcome a disadvantage or other impediment to success in higher education.
4. Demonstrate a commitment to contributing to the diversity of the student body by facilitating and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in their academic programs and campus activities.

Although financial need is not a requirement for program eligibility, nominees may use economic disadvantage as a basis for eligibility.

Preference will be given to nominees who:

- Are from a **low-income background** (e.g., Pell-eligible as undergraduates, eligible for Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program for 2+ years, received support from the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, have experienced homelessness, have been in the foster care system, or grew up in a U.S. rural area as designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration),
- Are **first-generation college students** (students whose parents have not earned a bachelor's

- degree),
- Have **overcome adversity**,
- Are **AmeriCorps alumni**,
- Are **veterans or active/reserve duty military service members**.

This scholarship program is open to any and all prospective candidates regardless of race, color, national origin, or sex, and is consistent with all current governing federal and state nondiscrimination laws. All application submissions will be assessed and evaluated in accordance with the required eligibility criteria.

All campus distributions are pending annual state budget approval. While the ODEI has been awarding campus scholarships for many years, funding may not be guaranteed each year.

Departmental Support Requirements

To be eligible for a Turner Fellowship, nominees must have already received an offer of admission to the program with full financial support.

Full financial support implies an agreement to provide a full TA/GA/RA line for PhD programs, plus a full tuition scholarship for the duration of the fellowship period. **For full consideration, departments must demonstrate a commitment to maintain full TA/GA/RA line support to Turner awardees – Turner funding may not be used to reduce or offset your program's cost.**

Turner Award Structure

The duration of the Turner Fellowship award is five years for doctoral students and four years for medical school students. The Turner Fellowship provides \$50,000 for PhD and \$40,000 for MD programs, paid as a supplement to program-level support (assistantship, stipend, tuition scholarship, etc.).

Funding Appointment Process

The CIE will disburse stipend supplements as a financial aid post via the student's SOLAR account in increments over the fall and spring semesters.

Qualtrics Nomination Instructions

All application materials will be submitted via Qualtrics. After departments submit their online nominations, nominees will be automatically emailed and prompted to submit their portion of the Turner nomination application process, which is now in the form of sociodemographic, short-answer response questions, and one essay. **Information submitted by the nominee will not be viewable by the department.**

Round Two Nomination Deadlines

July 29, 2026 11:59 PM (ET)	Graduate Program Directors submit the Nominator Application via Qualtrics. Each program may nominate up to two (2) students.
August 5, 2026 11:59 PM (ET)	Student nominees must submit their Turner nomination information via Qualtrics by 11:59 PM (ET).
Mid-August 2026	Award recipients are announced to departments.

Nomination Instructions for Graduate Program Directors

A maximum **two** nominations will be considered per graduate or medical program. **A completed Turner Nomination will include the following materials:**

1. Short-answer questions to be completed by the Graduate Program Director or nominator (in Qualtrics). **Departments/advisors no longer provide a Turner Nomination Letter.**
2. A copy of the nominee's Offer of Admission
3. 2026 Turner Financial Support document (download template [here](#))
4. ***NEW* Turner Program History:**
 - Please review the [list of Turner Fellows from the past 10 years](#). If you have any questions regarding this new component of the nomination process, please email [Rosalia Davi](#), Program Manager.
5. Nominee's graduate school application in PDF format. If another application portal is used instead of SLATE, programs should submit one PDF containing the nominee's online application, personal statement, transcripts, resume/CV, and letters of recommendation.

Instructions for Nominated Students

After the department submits the nominee's information through Qualtrics, nominees will automatically receive an email with a separate Qualtrics link. **Nominees are no longer required to write a Turner Statement.**

Departments may share the [PDF](#) of the nominee application with their nominee(s) in advance so they can prepare their answers as early as possible.

Contact information

If you encounter problems compiling or sending the electronic nomination package, please contact Rosalia Davi, Turner Program Manager, at (631) 632-1385 or TurnerFellowships@stonybrook.edu.