

## Dean of Grad Ed & Postdoc Affrs

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**From:** Dean of Grad Ed & Postdoc Affrs  
**Sent:** Monday, November 6, 2023 8:41 AM  
**To:** Dean of Grad Ed & Postdoc Affrs  
**Subject:** Call for W'24 Merkin Fellowship Applications | Program Info Session on Thurs. Nov. 16, 11am



November 6, 2023

**TO:** TOTAL CAMPUS DEANS  
ASSISTANT DEANS  
GRADUATE DEPARTMENT AND GROUP CHAIRS  
GRADUATE PROGRAM ADVISORS  
GRADUATE COORDINATORS  
GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT  
DEPARTMENT BUSINESS OFFICERS

**FR:** GIULIA HOFFMANN, Merkin Fellowship Program Manager-Division of Graduate Education and Postdoctoral Affairs (GEPA)

**SUBJ:** Call for W'24 Merkin Fellowship Applications | Program Info Session on Thurs. Nov. 16, 11am

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of Dean Antony, we are writing to announce that applications are being accepted for the next selection cycle of Merkin Graduate Fellows. Made possible by the generous support of Dr. Richard Merkin, **this fellowship provides UC San Diego graduate students a unique opportunity to conduct innovative research abroad on topics related to human health and longevity.**

Merkin Graduate Fellows design their own 3- to 6-month education abroad experience to work with top researchers and clinicians at academic and industry sites across the globe, receiving tuition & fee coverage as well as a \$5,000 monthly stipend for the duration of their participation in the program. The primary aims of the program are to drive bold, transformational advances in medical research and clinical applications and at the same time impact Fellows' personal and professional futures through an immersive global research experience.

**We invite applications from graduate students across campus whose research aims to improve human health and longevity, including in fields broadly related to translational medicine.** Applications are encouraged for eligible students across a wide array of disciplines, including but not limited to graduate programs in the following school and institutes: School of Biological Sciences, School of Medicine, Skaggs School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Jacobs School of Engineering, School of Physical Sciences, and the Halicioğlu Data Science Institute. Applications should include: (1) a CV; (2) a research proposal (no longer than 3 pages); and (3) a letter of nomination from the applicant's PI/faculty advisor indicating their support for the applicant's participation in this program. Applicants may also include an optional letter of support from their proposed host research mentor. Please submit applications via the [Merkin Graduate Fellows Program Application Form](#).

Faculty may also nominate prospective applicants they believe would be a good fit for the program by submitting a [nomination form](#). Nominees will be contacted by the Merkin Fellowship Program Manager to encourage them to apply.

**We will hold an informational webinar for interested students and faculty on [Thursday, November 16, 11am-12pm via Zoom](#)**. We encourage interested students and faculty to register and submit questions ahead of the webinar at [bit.ly/MerkinFellowshipInfo2023](https://bit.ly/MerkinFellowshipInfo2023). A recording will be available to all registrants.

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis once per quarter, with the Winter quarter review date on **January 8, 2024**. More details about the award and how to apply, in addition to information on previous recipients of the fellowship, can be found on the Merkin Graduate Fellows Program website, [merkinfellowship.ucsd.edu](https://merkinfellowship.ucsd.edu). Questions can be directed to me: Giulia Hoffmann, Merkin Fellowship Program Manager, at [merkinfellowship@ucsd.edu](mailto:merkinfellowship@ucsd.edu).

All the best,  
Giulia

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