

Request for Proposals

Energy GA Graduate Assistantships 2018-19

Office of Academic Affairs

University of Wyoming

Release date: 29 September 2017

Program Summary

The Office of Academic Affairs is pleased to issue a call for proposals to support graduate students conducting energy research, broadly defined. The program is intended to provide investigators with graduate student support for a period of up to two years to study basic energy research, technology innovation in energy development, energy conversion, reclamation of disturbances associated with energy extraction, and anticipation and mitigation of environmental and cultural resource impacts associated with energy development. Priority will be given to research projects that are directly relevant to Wyoming's current energy emphases.

According to Wyoming SF0136: "each year, at least fifty percent (50%) of all funds awarded for energy science graduate stipends . . . shall be awarded to qualifying students who have demonstrated Wyoming residency as determined by the University of Wyoming or who are graduates of the University of Wyoming." Thus, *highest priority will be given to proposals that specifically fund Wyoming residents and UW graduates.*

Awards will be made to specific investigators based on the technical merits of the proposal, past awards held by the investigators and demonstrated success in graduate student guidance and research. Proposals that recruit **new** graduate students matriculating at UW in Summer or Fall 2018 are encouraged. Nevertheless, the Energy GA funding is also available to fund ongoing graduate students. If an ongoing student is funded, an explanation of how the Energy GA funding did **not** supplant existing funding must be given in the Annual Report (see "Reporting," below). The graduate assistantships are to be awarded to only highly qualified candidates. Preference will be given to doctoral students in programs that offer doctoral degrees, although awards will also be available to master's granting programs.

As required, the University of Wyoming must report annually on the graduate assistantships awarded with funding from this appropriation. As such, all efforts will be made to award these graduate assistantships to deserving and promising recipients.

Academic-year stipends will be \$21,258 for PhD students and \$15,948 for master's students. Tuition, fees (up to 9 credits per semester) and health insurance will also be provided. Summer support for 2019 at the rate of 2/9 the academic year stipend may be requested. The graduate assistantships issued for AY 2018-19 are potentially renewable for AY 2019-20 provided that students demonstrate satisfactory

progress and job performance. Graduate student assistantships will be discontinued if selected students do not demonstrate satisfactory progress. Satisfactory progress includes filing of the Committee Assignment Form and the Program of Study Form within the first year of the program. Reporting requirements for Summer 2019 support and renewal for AY 2019-20 are detailed below. Students filling these awards must clearly demonstrate potential to fulfill teaching duties.

Energy GAs must be assigned teaching duties comparable to those in effect for all state-funded graduate assistantships consistent with the UW GA Job Description at: http://www.uwyo.edu/uwgrad/_files/docs/ga_job_description_time_limits.pdf.

Proposals and Award Process

Proposals for energy research should provide sufficient background information to fully describe the context of the problem to be addressed by the graduate student's thesis or dissertation research, written for a non-technical audience outside of the discipline. The goals of the graduate student's project and expected outcomes should be clearly articulated for a general audience. Additionally, a technical statement must describe the research and the intended approach to the problem. Proposals should state the department assessment ranking (Tier 1, 2 or 3). Finally, a CV (maximum two-page) of the principal investigator should be provided. Proposal length is limited to a maximum of four pages, including the CV of the PI. Note: **Please be sure to insert your department and the last name(s) of faculty submitting the proposal into your header.**

Proposals are due in the Office of Academic Affairs by **5 pm 16 October 2017**. Please submit proposals **as an electronic pdf** to Associate Vice Provost Jim Ahern, via Michele Peck (mpeck@uwyo.edu).

We hope to provide notice of a preliminary award by 31 October 2017; awarded investigators should then proceed to recruit a qualifying graduate student. Candidates must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Bachelor's degree with an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher; or a graduate GPA of 3.5 or higher.
- GRE verbal + quantitative score of 315 or higher. This combined score corresponds to students scoring at approximately the 80th percentile.
- Admission or ongoing enrollment in AY 2018-19 to a UW graduate program to pursue a master's or PhD. Hence, the student must be matriculated or enrolled in a UW graduate program in Summer or Fall 2018. Given the requirements of SF0136, funding of Wyoming residents and UW graduates is highly encouraged. Current UW undergraduates who enter a graduate program during the semesters noted are eligible. Moreover, UW students who transition from a master's degree to a PhD during these semesters are also eligible.

- Demonstrated ability to participate in classroom teaching: UW admissions requires; GRE writing 3.0 or greater, or Toefl 540, 76 iBT. Candidates must pass the UW English Proficiency Assessment Program before teaching duties are assumed. Failure to pass this program may result in the cancellation of the assistantship.
- Current PhD students who have received two years of Energy GA funding, may be eligible to receive a third year. Master's students who have received two years of Energy GA funding are not eligible for further funding.

Once a potential student recipient of the Energy Graduate Assistantship has been identified, investigators should submit the student's name and credentials to the Office of Academic Affairs using the form provided with this RFP. Upon approval of the student by Academic Affairs, funds will be released to the home department/program of the PI. *Please note that an award is not considered final until a qualifying student has been identified to work on the proposed project and the student has accepted the award.*

Reporting

To be eligible for Summer 2019 and AY 2019-20 funding, an Annual Report of no more than 2 pages is due in the Office of Academic Affairs in care of Michele Peck (mpeck@uwyo.edu) by **13 May 2019**.

Energy GA: Student information
AY 2018-19
(return completed form to mpeck@uwyo.edu)

Name of graduate student:

Matriculation date for proposed program: (Summer 2018, Fall 2018,):

Department and graduate program:

Degree sought at UW: Master's or PhD

Graduate thesis advisor:

Undergraduate Institution and Discipline Date of Degree GPA:

Graduate Institution and Discipline Date of Degree GPA:

GRE score Verbal Quantitative Total (Verbal +Quantitative):

GRE Analytical (writing) score:

International Applicants: TOEFL score:

International Applicants: Oral Proficiency Exam (verification by UW ESL office):