Program Overview

The Texas State University System Foundation (Foundation) established the Alan Dreeben - Grow Your Own Scholarship Program to increase faculty diversity and provide mentoring models for students at the eight institutions comprising the Texas State University System. Through this program, individuals from groups underrepresented on the faculty receive financial assistance to complete their doctoral degrees. While completing the doctorate, the student usually will be given an opportunity to work or teach at the sponsoring Texas State University System component institution.

Once the individual completes his/her doctoral degree, the successful applicant is given priority for employment in a tenure-track position at the sponsoring institution or another TSUS institution in an appropriate discipline and department, based upon needs of the department and institution at that time. Full details are contained in the scholarship award agreement, which is executed between the Foundation and the successful applicant.

Guidelines and Criteria for Candidates

- The candidate must be nominated by the institution’s president.
- The candidate must have at least one reference from a Texas State University System faculty member.
- The candidate must be a member of a population underrepresented on the faculty of the host institution.
- The candidate should be a student, faculty or staff member of the sponsoring institution, an educator in the community, or appropriately degreed professionals (e.g., CPA, nurse, engineer, or business leader with appropriate credential) with a desire to become part of the institution’s faculty.
- The candidate must have satisfactorily completed a baccalaureate and, preferably, a master’s degree.
- The candidate must submit a short essay (no longer than two pages, double-spaced) including:
• The candidate’s connection and commitment to one of the Texas State University System institutions, and stated intention to serve on the faculty.
• A description of the candidate’s interest in serving as a mentor for other persons from underrepresented groups on campus.
• A statement of the candidate’s goals and reasons for pursuing the doctoral degree.

• The candidate must provide documentation of admission into (or already be enrolled in) an accredited doctoral program in a content area or discipline offered by the sponsoring TSUS institution. An in-residence program is strongly preferred; online-only programs will not be considered. It is not required that the student be enrolled at a TSUS institution for the doctoral degree, only that the content area or discipline be available at the sponsoring TSUS institution.
• The candidate must be available for an interview with representatives of the Foundation prior to selection. Ordinarily the interview will be conducted telephonically; however, in some cases, in-person interviews may be requested.
• The Scholarship is available for the pursuit of only one doctoral degree.
• The candidate must be a U.S. citizen and a resident of the state of Texas.

**Scholarships**

If selected for a scholarship, the doctoral candidate will be reimbursed for permissible expenses up to a maximum of $50,000. The doctoral student must present an original receipt or bill to the Chief Financial Officer of the campus, showing evidence of payment. Permissible expenses include only the following:

• Tuition for required coursework.
• Mandatory fees.
• Textbooks and other required course materials.
• Living expenses are reimbursable if the distance to commute to classes requires a residence at the degree granting institution. Reimbursable living expenses include only rent, electricity, gas, water, sewer, waste collection and Internet service. Maximum annual reimbursement for living expenses is $9,000, and is included as part of the $50,000 maximum award.
• No other expenses are permissible or will be reimbursed.

The chief financial officer (CFO) of the TSUS institution will retain the original receipts and bills, review the tuition and fee expenses and ensure that payment is made to the student for allowable expenses. The Foundation will reimburse the institution upon receipt of copies of the expenses and a request for reimbursement from the CFO.

The Foundation will not reimburse expenses incurred prior to the award of the scholarship.
**Academic Progress**

The doctoral student must submit to the provost/vice president for academic affairs a transcript of the previous semester’s work or, following the completion of all required coursework, documentation of progress made toward completion of the dissertation. The provost/vice president for academic affairs periodically will review the academic progress of the doctoral student and will certify to the Foundation in writing that satisfactory advancement toward a doctoral degree is being made. If the Foundation executive director, together with the provost/vice president for academic affairs and vice chancellor for academic affairs, determine that a student is not making satisfactory progress, the student will be notified and no additional funds will be disbursed.

**Deadlines**

**System:**

- Applications for the Grow Your Own Scholarship, with a letter of nomination from the president of the institution, are due in the Foundation office by April 1st each year. Applications submitted after the due date will be given consideration as long as sufficient scholarship funding is available.
- Host institutions will submit an employment plan for each student nominated. Recognizing the scholarship’s fundamental goal of providing role models and student mentors, priority will be given to those candidates who are expected to fill full-time teaching positions.
- The Foundation executive director will begin scheduling student interviews as soon as practical after April 1st. All interviews should be completed no later than May 1st.
- The Foundation executive director will forward the applications, along with recommendation(s) for selection, to the Foundation Board of Directors no later than May 15th.
- The Board will select the most promising and qualified applicants, if any, during its regular May meeting.
- The Academic Progress Report will be addressed to the executive director of the Foundation and is due from the provost/vice president for academic affairs of the nominating institution by July 15th of each year for the previous academic year.

**College or University:**

Transcripts are due to the provost/vice president for academic affairs at the sponsoring institution by the beginning of the semester following the most recent classes taken. Following completion of all course work, a written statement by the student’s major
professor, addressing the student’s progress toward completion of the dissertation, is due to the provost/vice president for academic affairs at the end of each semester.