

This fellowship is for students in biomedical or life sciences PhD programs.

Gillian Fellows Program

More information and application form can be found [here](#).

Deadline: December 7, 2023

The Gilliam Fellows Program aspires to build a more inclusive scientific ecosystem by supporting scientists at two levels—graduate students and their faculty thesis advisers.

The program invests in graduate trainees who are committed to advancing equity and inclusion in science and empowers them as future science leaders. The Fellowship also provides support for thesis advisers to enhance their mentorship skills and act as change-makers to develop more inclusive and healthy scientific training environments.

Award Amount

The program provides awards and benefits to pairs of graduate students and their thesis advisers.

Fellows

- Fellows are supported for up to three years of dissertation research, typically in years 3–5 of PhD study
- For 2024, the fellowship award is \$53,000 per year. This includes an annual fellow stipend of \$36,000, an institutional allowance (in lieu of tuition and fees) of \$10,000, a fellow's discretionary allowance of \$4,000, and an adviser allowance of \$3,000 to support activities that improve the health and inclusivity of the graduate program

Advisers

- Engage in a thirty-hour, year-long mentorship skills development course through interactive online modules and two in-person meetings
- Learn best practices in improving communication, managing expectations, and developing equitable and inclusive mentoring relationships from nationally recognized facilitators
- Receive support to promote healthy and inclusive graduate training environments at the adviser's institution

Eligibility Criteria

HHMI's Gilliam Fellows Program is open to eligible PhD students and their thesis advisers.

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The adviser-student pairs must:

- Be studying scientific problems in biomedical sciences, life sciences, or biological questions in related disciplines. This includes basic research on a variety of biological systems and at all scales including at the molecular, cellular, organismal, ecological, and behavioral levels
- Be committed to advancing equity and inclusion in science

Prospective fellows must:

- Be currently enrolled and in good academic standing in a **biomedical or life sciences PhD program** at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States or U.S. territory.
- Be in their second or third year of a PhD program and have at least two full years of study remaining as of September 1, 2024. Students enrolled in or affiliated with a dual-degree program (e.g., MD-PhD) are not eligible to apply.
- Be a U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident, undocumented childhood arrival, or undocumented individual who has been granted temporary permission to stay in the U.S. (e.g., DACA).

Application Materials

The Gilliam application requires unique components to be submitted by the student, thesis adviser, and an additional reference for the student.

In reviewing applications, the Gilliam Fellows Program selection committee considers:

- The demonstrated ability of the student to formulate and creatively pursue interesting scientific problem(s), and their ability to clearly communicate these ideas;
- The commitment of the student to advancing equity and inclusion in science as demonstrated by their activities and/or their unique experiences that have shaped their leadership philosophy on equity and inclusion, and communication of how they plan to contribute to equity and inclusion in science in their future career;
- The demonstrated commitment of the thesis adviser to develop as an effective mentor; and
- The demonstrated commitment of the adviser to advancing equity and inclusion in science and their role in helping to foster a healthy academic scientific ecosystem for all constituencies (e.g., students, postdocs, early career faculty) at their institution.

Apply

Faculty advisers will continue to serve as the lead applicant, and once the application opens on October 19, they can start a new application from HHMI's Pathway system.

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Contact

For questions, contact gilliam@hhmi.org.
