The mission of the Spaulding-Smith Fellowship is to enhance the recruitment, retention and success of outstanding graduate students from historically underrepresented groups. The fellowships are awarded to top science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students seeking admission to UMass Amherst doctoral programs. To clarify the expectations and guidelines of the fellowship program, the following new policies are effective October 2018:

### Program Guidelines as a Spaulding-Smith Fellow
- You are expected to maintain continuous enrollment as a full-time student in your program and make satisfactory progress towards your degree
- You are expected to serve as a peer mentor for incoming fellows in your discipline/field after your first year
- You are expected to participate in community, mentoring and professional development programs hosted by the Graduate School Office of Inclusion and Engagement throughout the academic year

### For incoming students beginning in Fall 2018
- The Spaulding-Smith Fellowship Program will provide financial support for 2 years: during the first and final year of your graduate program

### For students previously on the NSF NEAGEP, NIH IMSD and STEM Diversity Fellowships
- The NEAGEP, IMSD and STEM Diversity Fellowship grants expired in Spring 2018
- The Graduate School has institutionalized these fellowships as part of the Spaulding-Smith Fellowship program with university funds in the Graduate School budget
- The Graduate School will make every effort to provide funding for students during their final year, through an application process outlined below:

#### For all NEAGEP, IMSD and STEM Diversity Fellows - To request final year of funding:
- Complete the **STEM Dissertation Fellowship Application Form**
  - This requires a personal statement from you and a letter of support from your advisor
- The application form should be submitted to stemfellowships@grad.umass.edu by your Dissertation Committee Chair/Advisor or your Graduate Program Director
- Applications must be submitted the semester before the beginning of your final year:
  - For the final year beginning in the Summer or Fall Semester, the application deadline is: **March 15**
  - For the final year beginning in the Spring Semester, the application deadline is: **October 15**
- Applications will be reviewed by a committee composed of members of the Graduate Council

### Funding Structure
- During the year(s) you are funded by the fellowship, the funding consists of 2 parts:
  - A 10-hour Research Appointment (disbursed bi-weekly throughout the academic year)
  - A non-working fellowship (one-time stipends in the Fall, Spring and Summer)

### Final Year Guidelines
- The Graduate School will only provide funding for up to 12 months not to extend beyond the date of graduation

### Graduate Fellows Training Grant Guidelines for Conference/Training/Professional Development
- All Spaulding-Smith Fellows are eligible (but not guaranteed) to earn **one Graduate Fellows Training Grant (up to $500) per academic year** (July 1 through June 30; multiple applications may be submitted, but only one can be granted)
- For more information, please see the **Graduate Fellows Training Grant Application**

Exceptions to the guidelines outlined above are rare, and only occur upon prior approval from the Dean of the Graduate School. For questions or concerns, please contact the Assistant Dean for Inclusion and Engagement, Dr. Funmi Adebayo at oadebayo@grad.umass.edu