



Purpose of the Advanced Opportunity Program Fellowship. The AOP Fellowship is provided by the State of Wisconsin and is intended to provide financial support for minority and disadvantaged graduate students which will allow them to focus attention on their graduate studies and to complete their degrees in a timely fashion.

Prior to initial completion of this form, complete the Application for Admission to Graduate School, including submission of transcripts for all previous graduate and undergraduate study. The student is strongly advised to apply not only for an AOP Fellowship, but also to complete a Graduate Assistantship Application and federal Financial Assistance forms. In completing the AOP application, additional sheets may be used if desired. Please type or print.

Funding is not automatically renewed from year to year. Although the committee will try to provide sufficient support for a degree to be achieved, the student must reapply for each academic year and any summer term. Top priority will be given to students unconditionally admitted into a degree program who demonstrate continuous satisfactory progress toward their degree.

Committee Review Date for Applications: Applications for the summer term and for the next academic year will be reviewed in the first week of May. Later applications will be reviewed if sufficient funding is available.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

Date	SID or Social Security #	Term(s) and Year for which this application is being made [] Fall 20__ [] Spring, 20__ [] Summer, 20__
Name	Last or Family	First or given
Mailing Address	Street or Box No	City, State and Zip Code
Degree Program	Expected graduation date (month, year)	

1 Please identify the American racial minority to which you belong. If Native American, please give Tribal Membership and Enrollment Number.

- Black American
- Hispanic American
- Southeast Asian
- Native American. Tribe and enrollment number: _____
- Other (Specify) _____

2 How many credits will you be taking during each term for which you are requesting support?

3 How will graduate study assist you in meeting your goals for the future?

4 In what ways will the AOP Fellowship facilitate your success as a graduate student?

5 Will you be employed during the terms for which you are requesting assistance? If so, for how many hours a week?

6 How did you first learn about the AOP Fellowship?

University of Wisconsin-Superior Guidelines Advanced Opportunity Program (AOP)



UW System Guidelines for the Advanced Opportunity Program (AOP) will be followed. Wisconsin residents will have priority status in receiving AOP awards (see #8 below).

The AOP awards at the University of Wisconsin-Superior shall be known as the Advanced Opportunity Program fellowships (abbreviated as AOP fellowships). Application of these guidelines for the University of Wisconsin-Superior are given below:

- 1 The principle underlying awards of the AOP fellowships shall be that they provide a proactive incentive for eligible and "targeted" minority or disadvantaged graduate students (as defined in the System Guidelines) to enroll in graduate programs at the University of Wisconsin-Superior and to successfully complete those programs without diversion from their studies necessitated by concurrent employment.
 - 2 The amount of the full AOP fellowship should allow for payment of all academic tuition and fees, and an additional allotment to be applied to expenses. The total award for the full AOP fellowship should be comparable to the Graduate Assistant salary. (The nonresident portion of the academic fees should be met through the Tuition Award Program or Waivers.) Partial AOP fellowships may also be awarded.
 - 3 On October 17 and 24, 1983, the Minority Affairs Committee designated an acting committee comprising the Dean of Faculties/Graduate Studies and Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs, to serve as the screening committee recommending the award of AOP fellowships. In 1988-89, the Director of the Center for Indian Studies or designee was asked to join the committee. In 1994-95, the Director of Financial Aid or designee was added .
 - 4 Each applicant for an AOP fellowship would be expected to meet the following criteria at the time of entrance into the graduate program of interest and/or initial term of the AOP fellowship:
 - a Be officially admitted to a Graduate Studies program at the University of Wisconsin-Superior on an unconditional or probational basis.
 - b In exceptional circumstances, be admitted as a Special Adult Graduate Student as per University of Wisconsin System guidelines.
 - 5 AOP applicants must complete a current FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Form as part of the AOP application process effective for all applications files after June, 1999. Due to the number of qualified, full-time applicants, the AOP committee requests information on financial need of the applicants in order to make the best use of available funds. The FAFSA forms are available from the Financial Aid office at (715) 394-8200 and online at www.fafsa.ed.gov.
 - 6 There will be two categories of AOP fellowships, full and partial.
 - a Full AOP fellows must enroll in at least nine resident credits in each term as AOP fellows. For summer session funding, a minimum of six credits is required.
 - b Partial AOP fellows must enroll in at least three resident credits in each term as AOP fellows. Request for AOP funding of UW-Superior Extension courses in addition to the resident courses would be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 - 7 To continue as an AOP fellow beyond the first term, the graduate student must:
 - a Enroll as specified in paragraph 5.a or 5.b. Courses chosen must advance the student's progress towards a degree or certification.
 - a Maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4-point system) in the initial term of attendance and a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 in all subsequent terms of attendance as an AOP fellow. (If the first term grade point average of 3.0 is not attained, an appeal to the Graduate Council may be made.) The student must also fulfill all criteria of the Financial Aids office for satisfactory academic progress.
 - 8 Should an AOP fellow drop out of school, either officially or unofficially during any term in which he or she has been awarded an AOP fellowship, that fellow shall be responsible for refunding to the University of Wisconsin-Superior the amount of the AOP award for that term.
 - 9 Preference shall be given to Wisconsin residents in the award of AOP fellowships. This preference status will have the following cut off dates: For fall semester, the preceding April 1; for spring semester, the preceding November 1; for summer session, the preceding April 1.
 - 10 Students requesting consideration for an AOP fellowship are required to complete a UW-S Financial Aid application. The applicant's financial need will be among the criteria considered for the award.
 - 11 AOP fellows are allowed to participate in assistantships and other departmental funded programs.
 - 12 Summer AOP funding is dependent upon money remaining from the previous fall and spring terms. Full fellowships will not normally be available during the summer term.
- This set of guidelines will be sent to each potential AOP fellowship applicant along with the AOP fellowship Application Form. Upon award of an AOP fellowship, a notification form will be sent to the applicant/AOP fellow.