USDA NIFA NATIONAL NEEDS GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP

The University of California, Davis received funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) for a National Needs Graduate Fellowship (NNF) grant to fully support two Masters-level and two Doctoral-level Graduate Research Assistantships. The four positions are available in Fall 2016 through a joint collaboration of the Plant Breeding Center and the Horticulture and Agronomy Graduate Group. Candidates for NNF funding will be chosen from the entire pool of applicants to the Horticulture and Agronomy Graduate Group at UC Davis, with a focus on historically underrepresented minorities.

The UC Davis curriculum equips students with skills and knowledge in both classical and field-based plant breeding, and molecular and genomics technology in plant breeding. Fellows will benefit from interdisciplinary training at UC Davis, contact with different industry professionals in the vicinity of the university, and opportunities for participation in professional meetings. Doctoral-level grant recipients are required to complete a 3-month internship with a seed company.

All four recipients are required to develop a study abroad program for six months, also funded by the project. Expected outcomes include publication of the research in peer-reviewed journals, presentations at local and national meetings, development of educational materials, and participation in extension and educational programs. Recipients must be citizens or nationals of the United States of America.

All National Needs Fellowship Positions are currently filled.