

GSAS MS-PhD Fellowship in Data Science

The Graduate School of Arts & Sciences and the School of Data Science are pleased to announce an opportunity for up to three doctoral students to receive an incremental year of fellowship support for the purpose of obtaining a master's degree in Data Science *en route* to completing the PhD.

This fellowship program supports students whose dissertation research and professional goals will derive specific and significant benefit from formal training in Data Science. Students enrolled in an Arts & Sciences doctoral program are eligible to apply for the MS-PhD Fellowship in Data Science during their **second** or **third*** years of enrollment in their PHD program.

This fellowship will cover tuition, fees, health insurance, and provide a living stipend equivalent to the support provided by the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences for the length (11 months) of the MS in Data Science program.

**PHD students in their first or fourth year and beyond may apply to the MSDS program independently but will not be considered for this fellowship.*

Proposal Instructions

Proposals will include the following components:

- A statement of purpose of three to five pages outlining the relevance and necessity of master's level training in Data Science to the student's field of study, prospective dissertation topic, and career goals, citing specific elements of the curriculum for the MS in Data Science;
- An academic plan endorsed by the student's advisor and Director of Graduate Studies detailing the previous satisfaction of pre-requisites for admission to the MS program in Data Science and a timeline for the integration of any remaining pre-requisite training into the student's doctoral curriculum; and
- Two letters of reference from faculty advisors describing their understanding of the training in Data Science that the student will receive and how it will be integrated into the student's dissertation research.
- The above components may be used as part of nominees' MSDS application materials.

Timeline

Proposals are due on **December 11**. Fellowship nominees will be notified by the Graduate School by **December 18** and must complete the application for admission to the MS in Data Science by **December 31**. The application fee will be waived for nominees. If their application is accepted, they will be notified of a provisional admission decision by **January 15** and complete any remaining pre-requisite training during the spring semester.

Questions

For questions about applying to this Fellowship please contact Ed Barnaby, Associate Dean for Graduate Academic Programs (etb8b@virginia.edu).

For questions about the MS in Data Science application, please contact Patti Edson, Director of Admission & Financial Aid (datascience@virginia.edu).