UCF and the Program

The University of Central Florida's College of Graduate Studies is announcing the creation of the UCF Diverse Academic Opportunities Program. UCF is committed to engaging in holistic enrollment strategies to attract, admit, and retain a broad range of graduate students to our doctoral programs. We are looking to find graduate students who bring with them attributes and dispositions of high academic quality, a specialized skill set for their field of study, a professional awareness, a defined research focus or background, and a desire to achieve articulated professional goals. Within the College of Graduate Studies we understand that diverse and underrepresented graduate students can be successful in completing a doctoral degree having come to this point by traveling a multiple of paths to achieve their academic goals. Some of those paths have been easy and some have been filled with barriers to overcome. It is not always about recognizing that you have been perfect in walking the academic path. It is more that you have walked it, been successful, and desire to experience more that the path has to offer you. These promising doctoral students dynamically model the fabric of our communities by representing people of diverse demographic backgrounds and people of diverse socioeconomic backgrounds. If this sounds like you, we have just the opportunity.

About the Program

The UCF Diverse Academic Opportunities Program is available to prospective Doctoral applicants from populations traditionally underrepresented in higher education and within specific fields of study. For instance, this might be women who are interested in the STEM fields or Hispanic/Latino populations pursuing a PhD degree in Psychology. This is a chance for you to come and visit the University of Central Florida before formally submitting an application for graduate study.

See first-hand the campus and the facilities we have to support you in your academic goals. The College of Graduate Studies pays all the costs of the visit including transportation, lodging, local travel from and to the airport, and meals.

This program is limited to a maximum of 25 potential Doctoral applicants for the October 2017 UCF Diverse Academic Opportunities Program.

Preference will be with diverse or underrepresented applicants working on or who have already attained a Master’s Degree.

During your visit to the University of Central Florida, you will have opportunities to:
• Visit the programs of your interest.
• Meet with leading and renowned faculty.
• Learn from current graduate students about how to be successful as a doctoral student.
• Attend workshops on how to submit a competitive application to graduate school.
• Attend panel presentations on being a diverse graduate student.
• Sit in on a graduate class in your area of interest.
• Tour the campus, laboratories, and research centers.
• See the different UCF off-campus facilities like the Medical College, Rosen College of Hospitality Management, and the developing UCF downtown campus.

How to Apply

Application deadline to the UCF Diverse Academic Opportunities Program is Friday, August 25, 2017.

Applying to the UCF Diverse Academic Opportunities Program:
1. Complete the application form at: graduate.ucf.edu/DiverseOpportunities
2. A copy of current transcripts - unofficial are accepted.
3. An academic resume or CV.
4. GRE scores if available.
5. A personal statement of interest, no more than 650 words, discussing past research or creative efforts.
6. A nomination letter from a previous faculty member or mentor you know.