

Rational statement: A co-funding model for supporting Kummer Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) Doctoral Fellows has been developed to improve recruitment of exceptional PhD students, increase the number of Kummer Doctoral Fellows, and leverage external awards with Kummer Institute resources.

This co-funding opportunity was developed with advisement of the Kummer Doctoral Fellows Selection Committee Members. Additional feedback was provided by the dean for each college (Drs. Susan Murray, David Borrok, and Mehrzad Boroujerdi) and Dr. Khayat, Vice Chancellor of Research & Innovation. The executive decision for this co-funding opportunity was made by Dr. Stephen Roberts, Vice Chancellor of Strategic Initiatives & Chief Operation Officer of the Kummer Institute, in October 2022.

The stipend and tuition & fees of I&E Fellows can, at the discretion of the faculty advisor and over a 4-year Fellow appointment, be co-funded by the Kummer Institute and the faculty advisor's external grants, SRI, and/or start-up funds. Co-funding from advisor funds can be between 1 and 4 years, over the 4-year fellowship.

For an I&E Fellow who is co-funded by the advisor, the advisor will fund

- One-half of a 50% Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA) that totals \$29,136.96 annually
- One-half of the cost of 21 credits + dedicated fees for MO resident tuition (regardless of the student's residency status)
- Direct research expenses for the I&E Fellow

For an I&E Fellow who is co-funded by the advisor, the Kummer Institute will fund

- One-half of a 50% Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA) that totals \$29,136.96 annually
- The remaining cost of 21 credits + dedicated fees (regardless of the student's residency status, which includes non-resident tuition)
- An annual fellowship of \$2,500
- \$1,500 per year for the I&E Fellow to support professional development

The Kummer I&E Fellow is required to be actively engaged in the Kummer Programming requirements and must be engaged in research for all four years of the Kummer Fellowship.

Co-funding by the faculty advisor is not required; students can still be nominated for and be awarded a 4-year I&E fellowship paid for entirely by the Kummer Institute. However, students whose nominations include a commitment of co-funding from the advisor will be given an advantage in the selection process (see below). Funding from the advisor must already be secured and a MoCode for the source is required when proposing a co-funded fellow application. Co-funding can be broken out yearly or paid lump sum equivalent upfront if deadlines for spending are of concern.

- Nominations that provide co-funding for 1 year (12 months over 3 academic terms: FA/SP/SU) will receive a 6% advantage on the application packet
- Nominations that provide co-funding for 2 years (24 months over 6 academic terms: FA/SP/SU) will receive a 12% advantage on the application packet
- Nominations that provide co-funding for 3 years (36 months over 9 academic terms: FA/SP/SU) will receive an 18% advantage on the application packet
- Nominations that provide co-funding for 4 years (48 months over 12 academic terms: FA/SP/SU) will receive a 24% advantage on the application packet

These advantages are applied in context to both the Student Application score and Faculty Nominator Score.

Should an awarded fellow defer their enrollment, the faculty advisor must confirm that the awardee will continue to be co-funded for the deferred term and up to the original agreed-upon duration. For example, if a faculty advisor committed to co-funding for 1 year (spring 2025, summer 2025, and fall 2025) for an awardee admitted for spring 2025 and the awardee defers to fall 2025, the advisor must confirm co-funding for 1 year beginning in fall 2025 (fall 2025, spring 2026, and summer 2026). The faculty advisor will receive a form upon initiation of the deferral request by the office of Graduate and International Admissions to confirm their shift in a co-funding commitment. If a student defers a second time, the faculty advisor will receive a confirmation form for each deferral request a student submits.

It is the responsibility of the faculty advisor to secure funds in the event that the committed funds declared in the nomination form are no longer be available. This would include a break in funding or deadlines for spending in the case an awarded fellow defers their enrollment.

This co-funding opportunity does not negate the current requirement that a Kummer I&E Doctoral Fellows nomination must include a declaration of full financial support through GA, GRA and/or GTA (12 months, .5 FTE, at a level in accordance with S&T GTA/GRA policies) for the nominated student in the event the student is not chosen for the Kummer I&E Doctoral Fellowship Program.