IACS New Recruit Award

The IACS New Recruit Award is given to new, incoming graduate students who are recognized as stellar students because of their outstanding potential indicated, for instance, by high undergraduate GPA, strong letters of recommendation, as well as their active research record.

What the award provides

The award is in the form of a lump-sum payment that is in addition to the regular stipend provided by the home department or research grant. The award brings total payment for the student to $34,000 for 1 calendar year, plus $4000 for travel and equipment. Distinguished IACS awardees will be permanently identified on the IACS website and in IACS publications, and their work will be highlighted in IACS workshop and conference proceedings. At the Institute for Advanced Computational Science our goal is to provide a springboard for students to reach for and obtain optimal career opportunities associated with the relevant emerging fields of graduate study.

Continuation of the award

Continuation of the award for a second year is contingent upon the approval of an IACS core or affiliate faculty member as a research supervisor who will pay the department-level stipend, a strong evaluation by that faculty member, and the availability of funds. Also required is that the student receive no less than a B in any graduate course taken throughout the duration of the academic year in which the award was given along with at least a B+ GPA. (*For students who have been given an IACS New Recruit award but subsequently receive a fellowship, for example from NSF or DoE, continuation of the IACS New Recruit Award will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.*)

Who is eligible

The student's background, and plans for study and research, must be aligned with research currently undertaken by a core or affiliate faculty member in the institute. Eligible departments where our core or affiliate faculty reside are: Physics, Applied Math, Computer Science, SoMAS, Geosciences, Sociology, Materials Science, Chemistry, Biomedical Informatics, Mechanical Engineering, Linguistics, Music, Neurobiology and Behavior, Civil Engineering, and Ecology and Evolution. ***The award is available to both domestic and foreign students. This award can also be offered in conjunction with a fellowship, e.g., GCF, as long as the maximum stipend of $34K is not exceeded.***

Nomination process

Candidates for IACS New Recruit Awards are chosen by the departments to which the students are applying. All candidates must have been admitted (evidenced by an offer of admission and full support issued prior to the date of the nomination) to the

relevant doctoral program. Each department may nominate up to 3 candidates. Submission of a nomination by the program implies agreement, in the event the nomination is successful, that the program will honor its financial obligations in each academic year of the award and will provide a full-tuition scholarship from the program's tuition scholarship allocation.

Deadlines
- All nomination materials must be sent electronically by the Graduate Program Director in pdf format to iacs@stonybrook.edu by **the first Friday in February**. If submitted by another person, the GPD must be copied. Submission documents are detailed below:
  - Departments must submit a letter of nomination endorsed by the Graduate Program Director that includes specific reasons why the nominee is considered a top applicant;
  - A statement describing the criteria the program employs in making admissions decisions;
  - An evaluation of the nominee against these criteria
  - Relevant transcripts in pdf format
  - The offer of admission and support issued to the applicant

The review committee is made up of 4 IACS core and/or affiliate faculty members. Selection criteria are based on GRE test scores, research experiences and/or recommendation letters along with the department's letter of nomination. Selections will be communicated to the departments by **the third Friday in February**.

For questions, please email Lynn.Allopenna@stonybrook.edu.