



# Fellowship Announcement

**Submission of proposals:** <http://www.generationcp.org/pgfellowship/>

**Deadline:** **November 30, 2008.**

The Pioneer–Generation Challenge Programme Fellowship promotes graduate education and is designed to contribute to agricultural research and education by supporting PhD studies in plant breeding and genetics. It targets top performers who will advance plant science, with emphasis on international agriculture. The fellowship is financially supported by Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. ('Pioneer'), a DuPont business, and implemented by [Subprogramme 5 \(Capacity-building and enabling delivery\)](#) of the Generation Challenge Programme (GCP). GCP is a programme of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

## Selection criteria

1. Proven academic excellence in disciplines related to plant breeding.
2. Proposed study programme/area: priority to GCP crops that are also of interest to Pioneer. See GCP Challenge Initiatives at [http://www.generationcp.org/gen.php?da=08128238#gcp\\_challenge\\_initiatives](http://www.generationcp.org/gen.php?da=08128238#gcp_challenge_initiatives).
3. Candidates must already have been accepted for a PhD programme at a recognised plant breeding institution.

## Eligibility

- Demonstrated interest in improving agriculture in developing countries.
- Candidates who desire to remain in, or return to, their country of origin and contribute to agricultural development. Priority to candidates from developing countries that lack a strong agronomic education base.
- Members of the Pioneer–GCP Fellowship Committee are not eligible to apply, or to write a letter of support.

## Due dates

- Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted online by **November 30 2008. Please note that applications submitted after this date will be automatically rejected by the web system.**
- Awards will be announced in January 2009

## **Application Procedure**

### ***Requirements***

Candidates must submit the following information, and where specified, in the format indicated in brackets:

- 1) Name of university; date of acceptance (proof of acceptance must be attached); name of departmental advisor, or equivalent; and area of study and research topic.
- 2) Justification criteria: written recommendations from **two** regional or national academic referees, verifying (i) the project, and, (ii) the candidate's ability and potential to contribute to national or regional agricultural research and development. (**PDF format only**)
- 3) Personal history: brief summary of educational background and experience, as well as how proposed graduate studies relate to career goals. (**MS Word format only**)
- 4) Institutional confirmation that efforts will be made to secure additional support to enable awardee complete their studies. (**PDF format only**)
- 5) Budget and date of commencement: Request must be supported by a budget for the entire fellowship period. The budget must be in line with the requirements of the institution. Requests exceeding a period of four years will not be considered. (**MS Word, tabular format only**)

### ***Submission***

- Applications and supporting documents **must** be submitted via an online application form, available at: <http://www.generationcp.org/pgfellowship/>
- On successful submission of the online form, applicants should receive an **automated acknowledgement of receipt email message** informing them that their form has been successfully submitted, and that results will be announced in due course. Should you not receive such an email after submitting your completed form, please inform Laura Ruiz (l.ruiz@cgiar.org)
- Kindly note that applications sent by email will **not** be accepted.

### **Selection**

The Pioneer–GCP Fellowship Executive Committee will select recipients. GCP and Pioneer reserve the right not to award any Fellowships if no applicants meet the required criteria.

### **Terms and conditions for fellowship award**

1. The Pioneer–GCP Graduate Fellowship in Plant Sciences provides an annual stipend to the recipient. The Fellowship is renewable for up to four years, subject to satisfactory performance and availability of funding.
2. The yearly stipend will be disbursed in two equal installments (or the corresponding start of the student’s study semesters).
3. Awardees will be paired with a ‘Pioneer–Generation CP Advisor’, who will monitor progress and provide professional advice to awardees.
4. The recipient may be invited to industry sessions, GCP events or mission visits as appropriate.
5. The fellowship offers an unrestricted gift to be utilized solely for the educational goal requested (a PhD). Cheques must be payable directly to the educational institute or organisation, and will not be payable to an individual, or directly to the recipient. No institutional overhead will be paid from these funds.
6. Recipient must be full-time students, maintain a minimum GPA of ‘B’ or equivalent on both semester and cumulative basis.
7. The student’s major professor must submit an annual progress report to the GCP SP5 Leader to facilitate disbursement for the following year.
8. If, subsequent to the award, the recipient changes academic programmes, educational institution, or elects not to pursue the originally requested academic goal, then all remaining authorised funding is null and void. Any unspent funds shall be returned to the Pioneer–Generation Committee, and funds for subsequent years will not be disbursed, even where previously authorised.
9. Extension beyond the approved length of time will not be considered.
10. Award recipients are in no way considered employees of Pioneer or any of its affiliates by virtue of their acceptance of the fellowship. No obligation is created now or in the future, by implication or otherwise, for recipient or Pioneer to enter into any further relationship or agreement by virtue of recipient accepting the award, except as set forth herein, or in other signed written documents between the parties.