



**PIONEER-GENERATION FELLOWSHIP**  
*For Ph.D. study in the U.S.*

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**  
**DEADLINE: 1 MAY 2005.**

The Pioneer-Generation Fellowship promotes graduate education and is designed to contribute to agricultural research and education by sending outstanding students to U.S. universities for Ph.D.-level graduate study in plant breeding and genetics. The intention of the fellowship is to attract the highest quality students whose careers will continue to advance the science of plant improvement, with an emphasis on international agriculture. The fellowship is supported by gifts from Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. to the Generation Challenge Program (GCP).

**Eligibility of Applicants**

The Pioneer-Generation Fellowship encourages candidates with an interest in improving the agriculture of developing countries to apply. In particular, candidates from developing countries who are seeking a strong agronomic educational base, and who desire to return to their country of origin and contribute to agricultural development, are encouraged to apply.

- 1) The candidate must have proven academic excellence in plant-breeding-related disciplines.
- 2) The proposed study program/area must be relevant. (Priority is given to GCP crops that are also of interest to Pioneer.)
- 3) The candidate must have been accepted at a U.S. plant breeding institution for a Ph.D. program. Applicants must have applied to become a doctoral candidate in a plant sciences discipline. The successful applicant must submit proof of graduate school acceptance in the plant science area before receiving the award.

**Application Procedures**

Candidates must submit the following:

- 1) Program information: name of university, date of acceptance (proof of acceptance must be attached), name of the department advisor, and area of study and research topic.
- 2) Justification criteria: written recommendations from two local educators verifying the candidate's ability and potential for contribution to his/her home country.
- 3) Personal history: include a brief summary of past education and experience, as well as how proposed graduate education relates to career goals.
- 4) Statement of the institution ensuring efforts will be made to secure additional support to enable a satisfactorily performing awardee to complete his/her studies.
- 5) Requested scholarship amount and beginning date: request must be supported by a budget for the education period. Requests for more than 4 years or more than \$20,000/year will not be considered.

**Applications must be received no later than 1 May 2005.** All application materials must be submitted as e-mail attachments to Ibtisam Vincent at [i.vincent@cgiar.org](mailto:i.vincent@cgiar.org). Only the following formats will be accepted: Microsoft Word (2000 or lower) or Adobe PDF.

## **Fellowship Selection**

Fellowship requests will be reviewed by the Pioneer-Generation Fellowship Committee. The Executive Selection Committee will be made up of four members: the GCP Director, a Pioneer representative, the GCP capacity building coordinator, and the Leader of SP3.

The Pioneer-Generation Graduate Fellowship in Plant Sciences provides a \$20,000 USD annual stipend to the recipient. The Fellowship is renewable for up to four years, provided that satisfactory progress occurs toward degree completion and funding is available. The recipient may be invited to industry sessions and/or GCP annual meetings or tours, as appropriate.

One fellowship will be awarded in 2005. The award recipient will be notified by 15 June 2005. The yearly stipend will be sent in two equal installments in August and January (or the corresponding start of the student's study semesters). The recipient will be recognized at the annual meeting of the Generation Challenge Program. Renewals of fellowships beyond the approved length of time will not be considered.

The GCP and Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. reserve the right not to present a Fellowship if no applicants meet the required criteria.

The award recipient will be assigned to a "Pioneer-Generation CP Contact Person." The Contact Person is responsible for maintaining a progress relationship with the student.

## **Restrictions and Conditions of Awarded Fellowship Funds**

- 1) Fellowship Awards are unrestricted gifts to be utilized for the educational goal requested. Checks must be payable directly to the educational institution or organization and cannot be made payable to an individual or to the recipient directly.
- 2) The recipient must study full time, maintain a GPA of "B" or equivalent for graduate work on both semester and cumulative basis, ask his/her major professor to submit an annual progress report to the Contact before subsequent year payments can be authorized, and must intend to complete a doctoral degree.
- 3) If, subsequent to the award, the recipient changes his/her academic program, educational institution, or elects not to pursue the originally requested academic goal, then all remaining authorized funding is null and void. Any remaining issued funds shall be returned to the Pioneer-Generation Committee, and previously authorized year 2 or year 3 funds will not be issued.
- 4) Award recipients are in no way considered an employee 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.
- 5) Members of the Pioneer-Generation Fellowship Committee are not eligible to prepare an application or write a letter of support.