

## Cybersecurity Graduate Fellowship Call for Applications

The UMass Dartmouth Cybersecurity Center is offering a limited number of graduate fellowships.

### Eligibility

- Full time graduate student status in good academic standing within the College of Engineering
- No student can receive full support from an external source such as (i) the [National Science Foundation \(NSF\) Graduate Research Fellowship Program \(GRFP\)](#), (ii) [DoD SMART Scholarship-for-Service Program](#), or (iii) [DoD Cyber Scholarship Program \(DoD CySP\)](#) and simultaneously receive support from the Cybersecurity Center.

### Expected Output

- Documented progress toward a cybersecurity-focused PhD dissertation or Master's thesis

### Evaluation criteria

Applications will be reviewed by a committee composed of faculty affiliated with the Cybersecurity Center. The committee will consider the following when reviewing applications:

- Alignment of research with the [UMass Dartmouth Cybersecurity Center Mission](#)
- History and quality of relevant publications and projects (relative to career stage)
- Clarity and quality of the writing contained in the Project Description
- Student's overall record of academic performance
- Significance of research to be performed during the fellowship period to contribute to (i) the faculty advisor's existing awards or (ii) serve as preliminary results for proposals in preparation
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion in STEM and cybersecurity
- Availability of matching support such as the faculty advisor's current projects, departmental funds, or the [Office of Graduate Studies](#)

### How to Apply

A complete application consists of the following items submitted as a single pdf document ordered as follows:

1. Cover page, including (a) project title, (b) name of applicant and faculty advisor(s), (c) list of publication venues and deadlines targeted with links to journal or conference, (d) a 100-word project summary, (e) semester(s) for which support is requested, and (f) sources of matching support (1 page)
2. Project description, explicitly articulating relevance of the project to advance the UMass Dartmouth Cybersecurity Center Mission, research objectives, evaluation plan, and timeline (3 pages)
3. Diversity statement, describing student's contributions to the promotion of diversity, equity and inclusion in STEM fields, and personal experiences as they relate to diversity, equity and inclusion (1/2 page)
4. References cited (1 page)
5. Applicant's resume (2 pages)
6. Faculty advisor's letter of recommendation, confirming sources of matching support (1 page)
7. Most recent transcripts (No page limit)

Additional information may be requested by the evaluation committee.



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### **Terms and conditions for all awards**

- A 1-page final report (no later than 30 days after the end of the semester in which support was received), documenting (i) progress made during the fellowship period, (ii) papers written, submitted, or accepted, (iii) abstracts and presentations, (iv) a brief description of activities and outcomes related to diversity, equity and inclusion in cybersecurity, and (v) any other significant research and education products. A copy of the manuscript(s) and research products should be submitted electronically as an Appendix. The most present state of drafts will be accepted, in cases where a manuscript is in preparation or under review.
- Delivery of a presentation at a Cybersecurity Center future event.

### **Letter of Support from the Applicant's Advisor**

This letter should (i) address the impact of the fellowship on the student's progress toward completion of a dissertation or thesis, (ii) explain the applicant's contribution to existing projects or proposals in preparation, and (iii) confirm matching funds and source, if available/provided.

### **Deadline**

Applications are accepted throughout the year. Submissions will be accepted until all funds are awarded. Applications and questions should be directed to [lfiondella@umassd.edu](mailto:lfiondella@umassd.edu) and [gkul@umassd.edu](mailto:gkul@umassd.edu).