



University of Maryland
Global STEWARDS

Future changemakers at the food-energy-water nexus

<https://globalstewards.umd.edu/>

Application Deadline for 2024 cohort: October 15th, 2023

We invite doctoral students to apply to the UMD Global STEWARDS graduate training fellowship. This fellowship was originally funded from 2018-2023 by the National Science Foundation Research Traineeship (NRT) program. **This year, a modified version of the fellowship program will continue beyond the end of the NSF grant by being integrated into the new [Global FEWture Alliance](#) Institutional Grand Challenges Program.** Through this integration, the fellowship program will continue to prepare future leaders focused on innovations at the nexus of food, energy and water (FEW) systems. UMD doctoral students from the life and public health sciences, earth system sciences, engineering and computational sciences, social behavioral sciences, natural resource management, energy and environmental policy, and other FEW-related doctoral programs are encouraged to apply. The UMD Global STEWARDS program trains doctoral students to work and communicate across FEW disciplines, from molecular to societal levels and from local to global scales, enabling transformative discoveries that can only be realized through transdisciplinary approaches. The program is meant to complement our existing PhD programs that address critical FEW challenges. A major goal of the UMD Global STEWARDS research traineeship is to advance the participation of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM fields relevant to the FEW nexus. Therefore, we strongly encourage applications from women and underrepresented minorities, as well as qualified individuals with varied experiences, perspectives and backgrounds.

Program Elements of the Newly Modified Program: UMD Global STEWARDS Fellows will participate in five experiential, interdisciplinary research traineeship elements:

- 1) Introductory and advanced experiential coursework (total of 4 credit hours intended to be accommodated within the student's existing credit requirements)
- 2) A monthly international webinar series that focuses on food-energy-water-climate-health topics
- 3) An intensive, annual, one-week "Summer Boost" workshops focused on professional development activities (e.g., science communication; ethics; grant writing; leadership and conflict resolution)
- 4) "Global Winter Amp" optional broadening experience in Israel, Nepal, or Tanzania (a short-term, faculty-led, study abroad experience).
- 5) Student led committees focused on mentorship, outreach, seminar planning, social activities, and social media.

These elements will take place in the 2024 calendar year from January to December 2024.

Through the two required courses noted above, all Fellows will participate in a year-long interdisciplinary food-energy-water-climate-health related interdisciplinary group research, extension or education project that integrates into the work of the newly funded [Global FEWture Alliance](#) Institutional Grand Challenges Program.

Stipends and Tuition Support: Approximately 5-8 doctoral students will be accepted into the 2024 cohort and receive a \$6,000 summer stipend. **All individuals accepted into the program will be designated as "UMD Global STEWARDS Fellows."**

Application Process: To apply to the 2024 Global STEWARDS cohort (beginning January 2024), students must submit the following application materials through the UMD Global STEWARDS online application:

<http://globalstewards.umd.edu/current-umd-students/>

1. Personal information (e.g., name, email, UMD program and advisor)
2. Research statement (max. 2 pages, double spaced PDF describing your prior research experience, your future research interests, and why you want to be a UMD Global STEWARDS Fellow)
3. Current CV
4. Current UMD transcript (unofficial transcript from Testudo is acceptable)
5. Transcript from your most recently completed degree
6. Acknowledgement form to be completed by the applicant's advisor (available on the application website)
7. Two recommendation letters which must be emailed directly from the recommenders to umdglobalstewards@gmail.com.

Completed applications (including two recommendation letters) must be received by October 15, 2023.

Applicant Requirements:

1. Current or accepted UMD doctoral student
2. Minimum current GPA of 3.0 (Fellows must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher throughout the program)
3. Intention to conduct research at the FEW nexus (involving at least two FEW nexus areas)
4. Approval from their primary PhD advisor (Advisor acknowledgement form must be submitted)

UMD Global STEWARDS Fellows will emerge from the program as well-balanced life-long learners, stellar science communicators and distinctive professionals armed with the communication and professional skills needed to translate research discoveries into actionable science at the FEW nexus.

For additional details regarding the program and the application process, visit
www.globalstewards.umd.edu

We will host an Information Session via Zoom on Friday September 15th, 2023 at 12pm.
Click here to RSVP for the Info session: <https://go.umd.edu/2024UMDGlobalSTEWARDSInfoSession>

For additional questions, please contact us at umdglobalstewards@gmail.com

