



## ICTAS Doctoral Scholars Program

### The Program

The ICTAS Doctoral Scholars Program is a new program established in 2007. The program honors exceptional Ph.D. applicants through award of full financial support for the Ph.D. qualifying period. This program is a cooperative effort supported and coordinated primarily by ICTAS, with significant contributions from participating departments, colleges, and the Graduate School. Successful candidates of the highest caliber are selected for this honor. This award is an investment in the university's intellectual talent, creativity, and potential complementary to Virginia Tech's mission and strategic plan. The initial goal for the program is to establish a steady state of 40 ICTAS fellows by 2011 ad infinitum.

The ICTAS Doctoral Scholars Program award provides full graduate tuition support plus a graduate student stipend award and associated benefits for the entire period of Ph.D. pursuit to a maximum of four (4) years for each selected honoree. For the inaugural year, the graduate student stipend is \$25,000. Additionally, ICTAS will support travel for professional development and external presentations.

### How Fellows are Chosen

Each year during November, the ICTAS Doctoral Scholars Program invites nominations from participating units. A selection committee, comprised of at least five (5) leaders from the participating units and including the ICTAS Associate Director for Research, meet to consider the nominations and prepare a recommendation for the ICTAS Director. Each nominated candidate is considered on the basis of the program's selection criteria and the correlation with qualifications and the candidate's letters of support. During this process, all related communications and documentation are held confidential.

During January/February of the year following the call for nominations, selections are made and recipients are notified by a letter of offer. Selected candidates may respond to the offer any time on or after April 15 and commence activity during the fall semester. Formal announcement of the annual list of recipients is made during August/September.

The inaugural class of ICTAS Doctoral Scholars is expected to be offered as follows:

College of Engineering	3 scholars
College of Science	3 scholars
College of Natural Resources	2 scholars
College of Agriculture	2 scholars
College of Veterinary Medicine	1 scholar

## **Eligibility**

Candidates of the highest caliber are eligible for this honor. Nominators are encouraged to nominate the best of the best in terms of academic and other credentials, in addition to acknowledged creativity and dedication to the chosen field of interest.

## **Basic Selection Criteria**

It is expected that consideration be given to the totality of the criteria for each candidate and customized to meet standards normally observed in the sponsoring unit, such as:

- Exceptional academic standing
- Letters of recommendation
- Contributions to the field, if any
- Overall potential for success

As part of the university's continuing pursuit of excellence in research, this opportunity leads the way in offering a challenge to others to establish and support programs that inspire our most creative resources to reach for the stars – or create new ones.

Applications should be directed to the college of choice. General inquiries related to program administration may be directed to Ann Craig, ICTAS Program Manager, at 231-2059 or email: [annc@vt.edu](mailto:annc@vt.edu).