GEM Fellowship Guide

Fellowships Advising and Study Abroad Center for Student Services, RM. 319 FASAoffice@caltech.edu

GEM Fellowship (The National GEM Consortium) https://www.gemfellowship.org/gem-fellowship-program/

Timeline & Eligibility

- Application Opens: Typically from July 1 each year.
- Deadline: Second Friday in November at 11:59 PM Eastern Time.
- Eligibility Requirements:
 - Must be a senior, current graduate student, or graduate from an accredited engineering or applied science program.
 - U.S. citizen or permanent resident required.
 - o Minimum GPA:
 - MS program: at least 2.8/4.0.Ph.D. program: at least 3.0/4.0.

Getting Started—Step-by-Step

- 1. Confirm your eligibility
 - a. Check your academic status and GPA, and confirm citizenship requirements.
- 2. Register on the eGEM portal (typically opens around July 1).
- 3. Prepare and complete the online application, including:
 - a. Resume and unofficial transcript upload.
 - b. Personal **Statement of Purpose** (minimum one page) outlining your academic, research, and career goals.
 - c. At least **two letters of recommendation** submitted online by the second Friday in November (3 are recommended, with at least one from faculty).
- 4. **Apply to a minimum of three (3) GEM Member Universities** in STEM fields by their deadlines (or by **January 15**, whichever is earlier). Note: this requirement may be waived if you're already enrolled in a STEM graduate program at a GEM Member University that agrees to sponsor you.

Tips to Build a Competitive Application

- **Statement of Purpose**: Be clear and compelling about your goals—why GEM, why your field of study, and how this fellowship enables your aspirations.
- **Graduate Applications**: Apply to at least three GEM Member Universities; reaching out early can help coordinate admissions and funding confirmations.
- Letters of Recommendation: Choose recommenders who can speak specifically to your technical strengths and potential. Ensure timely submissions.
- **GPA & Fit**: Ensure your GPA meets thresholds and choose programs that align closely with your academic and career trajectory.

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Selection Process Overview

- Selection Committee reviews and certifies applications soon after the November deadline.
- **Employer Sponsorship Matching**: Selected applicants may be matched with GEM Employer members for internships and sponsorship.
- **University Confirmation**: GEM Member Universities must confirm willingness to support you (tuition, stipend) before the fellowship is finalized.
- **Award Finalization**: Upon approval, you'll sign agreements (e.g., Student Acceptance, Code of Conduct, University Support Confirmation) and submit an official transcript.

Benefits & Requirements

- MS Engineering Fellows:
 - Full tuition & fees at GEM Member University.
 - Minimum \$16,000 total stipend over the program.
 - Up to two paid summer internships with GEM Employer Members.
- Ph.D. Engineering Fellows:
 - Full tuition & fees.
 - o Minimum \$16,000 annual stipend (supplemented to match department levels).
 - o Paid summer internship after selection.
 - University funds continue through Year 5, contingent on academic standing.
- Code of Conduct: Requires professional behavior during internships, submission of performance reports, and maintaining contact with GEM and Employer. Failure to comply may result in dismissal.

Additional Practical Advice

- **Start early**: Application preparation—especially gathering materials, applying to universities, and arranging recommenders—takes time.
- **Use campus and GEM resources**: Speak with fellowship advisors and GEM representatives at your institution for tailored guidance.
- **Track deadlines**: Keep detailed records of all application and program deadlines to ensure a smooth process.

Summary Checklist

- Confirm eligibility (citizenship, GPA, academic status)
- Register on eGEM portal when open (typically July 1)
- Prepare resume, transcript, statement of purpose
- Request and track recommender submissions (2–3 letters by mid-November)
- Apply to at least three GEM Member Universities by their deadlines
- Complete GEM application by Second Friday in November at 11:59 PM ET
- Monitor for employer sponsorship and university confirmations

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- Sign required agreements and submit official transcript upon selection
- Prepare for summer internship and fellowship engagement