



The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is now accepting nominations for the 2012 Kenneth H. Ashworth Fellowship Program. "Dr. Kenneth H. Ashworth was Commissioner of Higher Education in Texas from 1976 to 1997. The fellowship program was established in 1997 by members of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to honor Dr. Ashworth for his service as Commissioner. The purpose of the program is to provide financial assistance to students pursuing master and doctoral programs leading to careers in public service."

The Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Graduate Studies is putting forth a call for nominations for this prestigious award. It is one of the top priorities within the HSC to ensure that our outstanding population of graduate students receive such recognition for their continued efforts in the pursuit of knowledge and advancement of the health sciences.

### **Award Details**

The Kenneth H. Ashworth Fellowship Program is presented to students who are selected based on their "academic ability and promise, career plans and individual qualifications, with emphasis on leadership and communication skills." ***Award winners receive a \$2,000 cash prize to be used in the 2012-13 academic year.***

### **Eligibility**

In order to be eligible for the award, candidate(s) must:

- Be a Texas resident.
- Be identified by the Dean as needing financial assistance.
- Intend to work in Texas after completing their graduate studies.
- Be enrolled as a graduate students in public affairs, public service, or public administration.

### **Application**

Each nomination must include the following documentation:

- Completed Application Form (Part A only; see next page)
- A copy of his/her Student Aid Report
- A 500 word personal essay
- 2 Letters of Recommendation (1 from a Faculty member, 1 from a non-Faculty member)

### **Nomination Process**

All HSC nominations must be submitted to the SGS Office of Graduate Studies (c/o Ms. Amanda Allen; MS 1114; [aallen@tamhsc.edu](mailto:aallen@tamhsc.edu)) by no later than ***Monday, February 27, 2012***. Nominations will be subjected to an internal review by the SGS Office of Graduate Studies. Upon review, the Dean will put forward two (2) nominations to the Coordinating Board for consideration for the Ashworth Fellowship Program.



# Kenneth H. Ashworth Fellowship Program

## Application Instructions

2012-2013 Academic Year

### Part A: STUDENT

To apply for an Ashworth fellowship, each applicant must provide the following materials to his or her dean:

- 1. An application form with Part A completed along with;**
- 2. A copy of his/her Student Aid Report (SAR)**  
The federal document that indicates the student's Expected Family Contribution. To be considered for an award, an applicant must have applied for financial assistance. The 2012-2013 SAR is preferred, but if it is not yet available, submit a copy of the 2011-2012 report. Your college financial aid office can provide you a copy of your most recent Student Aid Report. SAR's from earlier years are not acceptable;
- 3. A 500-word personal essay**  
Instructions for the Personal Essay:  
Please compose and submit a 500-word essay describing your philosophy of public service. Include the personal and professional goals that you have established for yourself and how those goals relate to a career in public service. Describe any classes, volunteer experiences, or employment experiences which have prepared you for a career in public service.
- 4. Two Letters of Recommendation**  
Instructions for Letters of Recommendation:  
The student should contact two individuals, only one of whom is a faculty member, and ask them to write letters of recommendation and forward the letters to the dean by early February. Fellowships will be awarded based on the applicant's academic ability and promise, career plans, and individual qualifications with emphasis on leadership and communication skills.

### Part B: DEAN OR HEAD OF GRADUATE DEPARTMENT

Submit the completed packet which includes the application form, a copy of the Student Aid Report, the student's personal essay, and two letters of recommendation to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board by no later than March 1, 2012. **No additional materials should be included in the application packet sent to the Coordinating Board.**

**\*Please Note:** The Coordinating Board will rank applicants, select the award recipient and announce the recipient to the deans of all participating institutions by the end of April.

CHAPTER 21. STUDENT SERVICES

SUBCHAPTER JJ. The Kenneth H. Ashworth Fellowship Program

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21.2001. Authority and Purpose.

(a) Authority. Authority for this subchapter is provided in the Texas Education Code, Chapter 61, Section 61.068, which allows the Board to accept gifts and donations from individuals and groups in order to offer programs that encourage students to attend college.

(b) Purpose. The Kenneth H. Ashworth Fellowship Program is to provide financial assistance to students with financial need enrolled in graduate programs in public affairs, public service or public administration.

21.2002. Eligible Institutions.

To be eligible to participate in the program, an institution must be a general academic teaching institution as defined in Texas Education Code, Chapter 61.003 or an independent college or university which is a member of the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas.

21.2003. Selection Committee.

(a) A committee is established to accept and evaluate applications from institutions and to select fellowship award recipients.

(b) The committee consists of three members of the Coordinating Board staff appointed by the Commissioner, including one representative from the universities division, one from the Student Services division and one from another division of the agency.

21.2004. Eligible Students.

To qualify for an award, a student must be a Texas resident identified by the dean of his/her program of study as needing financial assistance. The student must be enrolled as a graduate student in public affairs, public service or public administration and intend to work in Texas after completing his/her graduate studies.

21.2005. Award Amounts.

No annual award received through this program may exceed \$2,000.