

# Procedure for the Selection of the Department of Philosophy's Nominee for the Graduate School Summer Fellowship (GSDF)

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## I. The Application Procedure

A. The Graduate School sends to departmental administrators an announcement of its Summer Fellowship competition, which is awarded only to students working on a Ph.D. dissertation. This announcement lists the required application materials and the Graduate School's deadline for submission.

B. The announcement is forwarded to our graduate-student e-mail distribution list.

C. The Graduate School allows each department to nominate only one candidate; thus, the Chair of the Department of Philosophy announces an internal deadline for the submission of application materials to him/her (this internal deadline falls well before the Graduate School's deadline).

D. The Department of Philosophy's Fellowship and Awards Committee considers all applications that were submitted to the Chair prior to our internal deadline.

E. In years past, application materials have included a student-written proposal and a nominating letter from the student's advisor. Students should submit only the requested materials.

## II. Internal Selection Process.

The Fellowship and Awards Committee considers the following factors when selecting a nominee:

A. academic record

B. quality of the proposal

C. content of the advisor's letter of nomination

D. accessibility of the proposal to non-specialists

E. the student's progress in the program

Awards are made by a committee comprised mostly of nonphilosophers. Thus, with regard to the weighting of these factors (especially D.), members of the Fellowship and Awards Committee consider how likely the candidate is to rise to the top of a list constructed by nonspecialists.