



ITS AFFILIATED STUDENT MANUAL

Graduate Student Opportunities

As a graduate student affiliated with the Institute of Transportation Studies at UC Davis, you are afforded many opportunities that you may not find in other graduate programs. While you may not be directly funded by ITS-Davis, there are many programs available for you to leverage during your graduate career. Specific opportunities include (but are not limited to):

- *Support for publications and conferences, including some event and travel reimbursement*
ITS-Davis can provide assistance in identifying which conferences or professional events would be most beneficial for your academic development. Some travel funding may be available through the *Friends of ITS-Davis* program. Specific application information is presented later in this manual.
- *Fellowship support for transportation related research*
The UC Davis Fuel Cell, Hydrogen, and Hybrid Vehicle (FCH2V) GATE Center of Excellence was established in 2005 to further research on automotive technology. This is a competitive research fellowship; you will need to identify a project and apply within the given timeline. Projects should be designed such that they can be completed within one year of research. Additional information about the GATE center and application process can be found at <http://gate.its.ucdavis.edu>. In addition to GATE funds, you may be qualified for other transportation related fellowships found on the following list: <http://www.its.ucdavis.edu/education/pdfs/scholarship-listing.pdf>
- *Internship opportunities with program sponsors and external experts*
A number of ITS-Davis sponsor organizations (including government agencies and industry) are looking for qualified graduate students to work on a short-term basis in their organizations. You are encouraged to seek out these opportunities and identify job descriptions that are beneficial to your graduate experience. Information on applying for internships is presented later in this document.
- *A well-established transportation education system*
ITS-Davis is on the forefront of vehicle and transportation related research, and offers many classes and seminars throughout the year. ITS offers its own degree program, through the Transportation Technology and Policy (TTP) group. Transportation related seminars are held throughout the academic year, and open to any interested students. An ITS listserv exists to inform students of upcoming events and opportunities; affiliated students are encouraged to join the email list.

Specific Program Opportunities

Some of the opportunities provided by ITS-Davis will require you to apply for them ahead of time; specifically, travel and internships. Below are the methods for applying for these awards.

- *Friends of ITS Additional Travel Funds*
ITS understands that networking and attending conferences are vital for a successful academic career. Accordingly, the *Friends of ITS-Davis* have established an annual fund to provide supplementary travel funding for students affiliated with the ITS programs. Domestic awards are limited to \$700, and international awards are limited to \$900. These funds are intended to supplement, not replace, the travel funding provided to you

by your home department. This money is reserved specifically for oral presentations, with the exception of the annual *Transportation Research Board (TRB)* meeting. A thorough explanation of the award policy can be found at <http://www.its.ucdavis.edu/education/tp/StudentTravel.html>

- *Internship Application*

In order to broaden their knowledgebase and gain industry experience, many students in the ITS affiliated programs may participate in internships. These programs foster good relations between ITS-Davis and the sponsor organizations. The program management staff will work with you to find mutually beneficial internship opportunities for you and the sponsoring organizations.

- To apply for internship assistance, please prepare a document stating your interests in the prospective organization, relevant skills or work experience, and what you can offer the organization as an employee. Also include an up-to-date CV or resume and references. It may also be helpful to work with your advisor, as they can assist you in choosing a company and project opportunity.
- If an internship posting already exists, it is helpful to explain how your skills fit the posted needs.
- If no internship posting exists, please explain why the organization should create a position and the value it would bring. The management team cannot guarantee that you will find an internship, but a concerted effort will be made to assist you in any way possible. Please contact the Program Management for additional information.