

## RECOMMENDED STEPS FOR APPLYING FOR THE CSU-LSAMP BD AT FRESNO STATE FELLOWSHIP

1. Register for the GRE General Test as early as possible. There are numerous dates to take the computerized version of this test. In order to complete the CSU-LSAMP BD application form, you must have taken the GRE general test and upload the scores on the online application by the **extended deadline of April 17, 2020**.
  - a. The GRE scores are NOT used as selection criteria, but are critical in helping us develop the proper advisement tools necessary for improvement of GRE performance.
  - b. If your GRE test date was canceled due to the COVID-19 crisis, please make a note of it on your BD application. It is also highly recommended that you contact the Fresno State faculty Graduate Coordinator for the program you are applying for to discuss your GRE situation, if the GRE is required for the master's program you are applying to.
2. Before you begin completing the CSU-LSAMP BD at Fresno State online application, visit the department website for the STEM master's program at Fresno State that you are interested in pursuing. It is critical that you first identify the MS program in which you would want to spend two years doing research, and determine how it might help you achieve your PhD goals. Review all of the online materials about that department and its faculty to ensure that the department offers what you need for successful MS completion within the two years of funding.
3. On each STEM department homepage there is a link to faculty members in that department and usually a brief description of their research projects. *Note:* not all webpages are up to date with all of the new faculty members listed, so contact the Department Office for updates on new faculty members. Identify 3-4 faculty members, who are doing research in areas that interest you. Also note that there are many faculty members at Fresno State who have interdisciplinary research projects and are looking for students from other departments to join their research group. For example, mathematics is the language of all STEM majors, and so it is possible that a student applicant, who is interested in mathematics, may end up choosing a faculty research mentor in a STEM discipline other than mathematics.
4. Contact the faculty members, whose research interests you, to determine if they are interested in accepting new students into their research group. Be certain to mention that you are applying for the 2-year CSU-LSAMP BD fellowship (which will run August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2022, *assuming NSF funding of the proposal*). It is critical that each CSU-LSAMP BD applicant identify specific faculty members with whom they can complete a MS thesis. Completion of a thesis is a requirement of all CSU-LSAMP-BD fellows *even if it is not a requirement for your department of interest*.
5. Now that you have identified a major department and at least one faculty member who could serve as your faculty research mentor and thesis advisor for your Master of Science degree, it is time to apply to graduate school at Fresno State via the [Cal State Apply](#) website. The deadline to apply to graduate school for Fall 2020 varies between April 1 and June 30, 2020. The following link will take you to the website for the specific department deadlines and criteria for domestic students:  
<https://www.fresnostate.edu/academics/gradstudies/prospectivestudents/programadmissioncriteria.html>

6. Once you complete your Fresno State graduate school application form via Cal State Apply, you will be assigned a Fresno State campus identification number (ID), which will be requested on the CSU-LSAMP BD Fresno State online application form.
7. Next contact your proposed major department for your graduate program and complete the department application form if one is required. There is also a Department Graduate Coordinator and specific Department Staff who handle the graduate activities for each STEM department. You should be able to find that information on the website or by calling the Department Office. *Make sure you have applied to the appropriate STEM graduate program BEFORE you submit your CSU-LSAMP BD Fresno State application – applications without the Fresno State ID number will not be considered.*
8. Now it is time to complete the CSU-LSAMP BD Fresno State online application. The deadline for the application and all components including 1) unofficial college transcripts 2) copy of GRE General Test scores and 3) CV/resume 4) LSAMP Coordinator Confirmation Form completed online by the Coordinator 5) Three (3) faculty letters of reference submitted online by April 3, 2020.

IMPORTANT: The LSAMP Coordinator Confirmation Form and three letters of reference are submitted online by the faculty/mentors.

***Faculty will receive the link via email to complete a recommendation form and upload the letter of recommendation only once your completed CSU-LSAMP BD application is submitted online. The letters of reference signed on letterhead submitted by the faculty member must be received by the Friday, April 3, 2020 deadline so please plan accordingly.***

9. Selected CSU-LSAMP BD Fresno State applicants who submit COMPLETE APPLICATIONS by the deadline will be interviewed in April or May. Final decisions and award letters will be sent out approximately June 15, 2020.

If you are accepted into the program, you will be required to submit an official copy of the transcripts that clearly shows that your undergraduate degree was officially awarded.

Official undergraduate school transcripts with graduation date posted on the transcripts will be due any time before August 14, 2020.

Also during the month of July, prior to the CSU-LSAMP BD Orientation meeting in August 2020 and the CSU-LSAMP BD Retreat meeting in September 2020 there will be a specific number of things to do in preparation for the start of the program. These include meeting and communicating with your faculty research advisor to help you develop a 10-15 minute lightning talk describing your proposed thesis project.

If you have questions or require more information, contact Lilia De La Cerda, MPH CSU-LSAMP Coordinator at (559) 278-4748 or [liliad@csufresno.edu](mailto:liliad@csufresno.edu) or Dr. Joy Goto at (559) 278-2103 or [jgoto@csufresno.edu](mailto:jgoto@csufresno.edu).