

**Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois  
2026-2027 Renewal Application**

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_



***FY2027 Diversifying Higher Education  
Faculty in Illinois (DFI) Renewal Fellow  
Application***

DFI Administrative Office  
Illinois Board of Higher Education  
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**Renewal Applications due to IBHE: April 17, 2026**

# Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois 2026-2027 Renewal Application

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## A COMPLETE RENEWAL APPLICATION INCLUDES:

- A certified/signed application.
- An admission letter to your doctoral program if previously funded for a master's-level degree and now seeking funding for doctoral level.
- Certification of full-time enrollment status.
- Official letter/documentation from current or undergraduate institution Financial Aid or other institutional official on letterhead verifying the applicant received the Pell Grant as an undergraduate student at any point.
- Current CV

**\*The Institutional Representative is responsible for certifying and reviewing all Renewal materials to ensure compliance with DFI guidelines.**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Attending Institution and Degree to be supported by this award for 2026-2027:

Name/Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline/Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Sought (PhD, EdD, MA, MS, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

- Year of funding (circle one): 2nd 3rd 4<sup>th</sup> and final
- Awarded applicants are required to enroll full-time while receiving this fellowship.
  - This applicant is a **full-time enrolled** student as verified by the institution.
  - Number of hours enrolled \_\_\_\_\_.
- If previously funded for a master's-level degree and now seeking funding for doctoral level, an admission letter to the doctoral program is also required.

## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street/Apt. City, State Zip Code

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Other: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Non-academic Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Street/Apt.

City, State

Zip Code

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**CAREER PLAN**

**PLEASE INDICATE FUTURE EMPLOYMENT INTEREST (Check only one):**

\_\_\_\_ Community College \_\_\_\_ Four-year (research emphasis) \_\_\_\_ Four-year (teaching emphasis) \_\_\_\_ Professional Faculty/Staff \_\_\_\_ K-12 Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Describe how you plan to find employment in Illinois upon graduation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to relocate to other parts of the State of Illinois to accept full-time employment in a faculty or staff position? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

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## ACADEMIC PROGRESS SECTION

I am requesting continued funding toward the completion of the following degree in 2026-2027:

- Doctorate-level (answer Doctoral section below)  
 Master's-level (answer Master's section below)  
 Master's/Doctorate combo (answer both sections below)

**Grade Point Average:** What is your overall grade point average in the graduate program for which you are funded? (Indicate scale if other than A = 4.0). A **minimum grade point average** of 2.75 (scale 4.0 = A) is required to remain eligible for renewal funding. \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Hours Completed:** As of the end of this year's spring semester/quarter, how many credit hours have you completed toward the graduate program for which you are funded? \_\_\_\_\_

**Credit Hours Required:** How many total credit hours are required to graduate in the program for which you are funded? \_\_\_\_\_

### Doctoral-level degree seekers:

1. Date of entry into doctoral program (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_
2. Anticipated preliminary exam date (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are you currently writing a dissertation? Yes  No
5. Anticipated defense date (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_
6. Will you have completed all requirements of your program, except the dissertation, before the fall semester 2026? Yes  No
7. Anticipated degree conferral date (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_

### Master's-level degree seekers:

1. Date of entry into master's program (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_
2. Have you started writing a thesis or research paper? Yes  No  N/A
3. Anticipated degree conferral date (month/year): \_\_\_\_\_
4. Are you pursuing a terminal Master's degree? (i.e. MFA, MSW, etc.) Yes  No

## RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Attach a CV/Resume that includes all items marked "Yes" in this section (required). Presentations and publications should be identified in complete bibliographic reference.**

1. Have you conducted any research projects? Yes  No   
If yes, include topics researched.
2. Have you submitted a manuscript for publication? Yes  No
3. If yes, have any been accepted for publication? Yes  No   
If yes, reference all publications/manuscripts, including those in review.
4. Have you attended a state/regional/national conference (other than DFI)? Yes  No   
If yes, identify conferences attended, including title, sponsor, date(s), location, and theme.
5. Have you received any academic honors for your graduate work? Yes  No   
If yes, identify all honors received, including date and honoring agency/organization.
6. Are you affiliated with any professional associations or organizations? Yes  No  (If yes include professional affiliations, offices held and years of membership).
7. Are you currently working (teaching/administration) in your area of study?  
(If 'Yes,' please explain). Yes  No



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**Institutional Representatives**

Please click on the link below for a complete list of DFI Institutional Representatives at:

<https://www.ibhe.org/dfiinstRep.asp>