

Qualcomm Innovation Fellowship (QIF)

NORTH AMERICA 2021 FAQs

Team Composition

Can students from different advisors, departments or schools form a team?

Yes. As long as each student meets the criteria for participation.

Can a student be part of multiple teams? Can a team submit multiple proposals?

Yes. A student may be part of multiple teams and a team may submit multiple proposals. However, only one cash award may be awarded per student winner per year, regardless of the number of winning teams or proposals in which that student participates. The funds are provided to the winning student's department to be used in the department's discretion.

Can a team include one student from a QIF school, and one from a non-QIF-eligible school?

No. The money is awarded as a Fellowship through the eligible school(s) attended by the winning students.

Can team members be from different QIF-eligible schools?

Yes, for example one from Berkeley and one from MIT.

Eligibility

Can students without advisors participate?

Yes; however, students are encouraged to find like-minded faculty to recommend the innovation. The faculty recommendations are an important factor in the judging process.

Are newly-admitted students eligible to apply for the fellowship?

Yes. Students who begin a PhD program in the Fall semester of an academic year are eligible to apply for a QIF Fellowship for that year. The advisor's recommendation should mention that the student has been admitted for the upcoming Fall semester.

When do I have to be enrolled to be eligible to apply?

You do not have to be enrolled at the time that you apply for a QIF Fellowship, but winners must be enrolled for the entire QIF Fellowship academic year.

I am graduating soon, am I still eligible?

Students are eligible if they are enrolled for the entire QIF Fellowship academic year. Therefore, students who intend to graduate prior to the conclusion of the QIF Fellowship academic year are not eligible.

Can previous QIF applicants apply again?

Of course! In fact, we encourage former applicants to submit new proposals, or update their original proposals and resubmit them using the current proposal guidelines.

Awards

Is there an "award quota" for schools or regions?

No. This is an open contest between all eligible schools. It is possible that one school may win no award or one or more awards.

What if a QIF Fellowship winner also receives a non-QIF Fellowship?

Winning a non-QInF fellowship does not preclude the student from being awarded the title of QInF Fellowship winner nor their department from receiving the associated funds.

Do funds expire after 1 year?

No, the department can roll the awarded funds over to the next year. Each winner's department is allowed complete flexibility on how to use the funds.

What may Qualcomm provide to Fellowship winners in addition to the financial awards?

Qualcomm, in its sole discretion, may also make the following benefits reasonably available to QIF Fellowship winners during the QIF Fellowship academic year:

- A mentor for each winning team
- Opportunities to regularly interact with researchers in the Qualcomm Research Centers which may include use of guest offices
- Travel arrangements to Qualcomm facilities for select QIF Fellowship events
- Preference for internship and full-time applications

Proposal Process

What constitutes an application?

An application consists of the completed registration materials described on the Program website at: <http://www.qualcomm.com/innovationfellowship> submitted in accordance with the instructions set forth on this website.

Is there a template available for the proposal?

No. The proposal must fit onto three pages with an optional fourth page for bibliography/references. The proposal should be easily readable and one or two-column layouts are allowed.

What is the judging process?

The judging and selection process is described in detail on QIF Fellowship North America 2021 Official Rules: <https://www.qualcomm.com/documents/qif-2021-north-america-official-rules>.

Can QIF Fellowship Applicants from previous years receive input on their previous proposals?

Please contact us: (innovation.fellowship@qualcomm.com)