

**Council of Graduate School Programs
Loyola University Chicago
Graduate Student Award for
Excellence in Civic Engagement to Promote Social Justice**

Students may be nominated or self-nominated to receive this award. Only students who are enrolled in programs with the graduate school at Loyola University Chicago and are in good standing are eligible for this award. Students must be engaged in social justice and civic engagement during their time as a graduate student, and will be judged on the following criteria:

- Experience as an unpaid volunteer or intern in organizations that serve lower-income groups or the marginalized or stigmatized groups (e.g., convicted criminals, victims, prisoners, children or adults in disadvantaged areas, immigrants, those who need educational assistance, crisis assistance, advocacy support groups for health issues)
- Activism to address social justice issues, including oppression, injustices, or political issues
- Organizing and participating in charity drives or events
- Organizing or assisting with social or intellectual events addressing issues related to social justice
- Involvement in research that addresses social justice issues

Students are required to submit the following:

A personal statement, two to three pages, describing their involvement in civic engagement activities that promote social justice and the reasons that they became involved.

Two support letters, one from a professor with knowledge about the social justice/community engagement work of the graduate student and a second from a community leader directly aware of some of their civic engagement activities.

The recipient will receive a \$250 honorarium.

To apply for this award, submit materials electronically by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday April, 15 2026. to: Awards Committee Chair at CGSP-Awards@luc.edu. Paper copies will not be accepted.