

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

October 4, 2024

RE: C.S. Mott Pre-doctoral Fellowships in Sustainable Agriculture, 2025/26

We invite MSU faculty to nominate graduate students for the C.S. Mott Pre-doctoral Fellowships in Sustainable Agriculture for the 2025-2026 academic year. These fellowships are intended for students beginning a Ph.D. program in the 2025-2026 academic year and engaging in research relevant to sustainable agriculture and food systems, broadly defined.

There will be two to three fellowships of \$39,000 each awarded this year. The amount is parallel to the cost of a 9-month assistantship, but the fellowship can be utilized any time during their graduate study, pending completion of a satisfactory annual report by July 1 of each year (for example, \$39,000 in one year, or \$13,000 each year for 3 years).

A fellowship provides financial support to graduate students to pursue their graduate studies without associated teaching or research responsibilities. Mott Fellows are required to participate in the [MSU Graduate Specialization in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems \(SAFS\)](#).

To nominate a student, the faculty member should send:

1. a copy of the student's graduate application package
2. a short essay from the prospective student outlining their interest in studying sustainable agriculture and food systems, their interest in joining the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems program (SAFS), and a description of how they will contribute to MSU's diversity, equity and inclusion goals
3. a recommendation letter from the faculty advisor concerning: 1) the applicant's probable dissertation area and relevance to sustainable agriculture, and 2) summary of the applicant's academic and professional achievements including honors and awards.



DEPARTMENT OF

**ANIMAL SCIENCE**

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MSU is an affirmative-action  
equal-opportunity employer.

Please send all nominations electronically in one PDF to the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems program (SAFS) email [safs@msu.edu](mailto:safs@msu.edu).

Nominations are due on January 31, 2025. Awards will be offered in March 2025.

Sincerely yours,

Jason Rowntree, PhD  
CS Mott Chair of Sustainable Agriculture  
Professor, Animal Science

Katherine Alaimo, PhD  
Director, SAFS  
Associate Professor, FSHN