**Outstanding Graduate Student Award**

**Introduction**

The candidate must be a current graduate (M.S. or PhD) student in the School of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences at Tennessee State University.

The Outstanding Graduate Student Award will be presented to one Master’s degree student and one Doctoral student every year during which at least one student in each category meets the requirements developed by the committee designated to do so. If no nominee meets the requirements, the award will not be presented during that year.

A student may only receive the award once.

**The Award Process**

Applicant must submit a completed application form and all required documentation.

Applications and all required documents for award consideration should be submitted to Sue Ballard de Ruiz, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, 107 Humphries Building. aballard@tnstate.edu

The Outstanding Graduate Student Award committee will verify the accuracy of all information submitted.

**Minimum Qualifications**

* At least 9 hours of graduate credit in The School of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences.
* Minimum Grade Point Average of 3.5
* Minimum 16 points on selection criteria

**Specific Criteria for Selection**

Criteria to be used by the Review Panel for comparing applicants:

1. Grade Point Average:

Minimum graduate Grade Point Average of 3.5

3.50 - 3.65 = 1 point

3.66 - 3.75 = 2 points

3.76 - 3.85 = 3 points

3.86 - 4.00 = 4 points

1. Extracurricular activities:

Affiliations with professional/student organizations, offices held in professional organizations, offices held in Student Government Association, and community service.

Maximum of 4 points

1. Personal Statement:

 Brief statement from applicant discussing their current involvement in the profession and future contributions.

 Maximum 4 points

1. Letters of Reference:

A minimum of three, and not more than five, letters of reference from individuals who can evaluate the candidate's efforts.

Maximum of 4 points

1. Presentations:

Oral or poster presentations of research findings (presented outside of class). Maximum of 4 points

1. Awards:

Awards received as a result of student/professional activities.

Maximum of 4 points

1. Publications:

Articles or abstracts related to the profession.

Maximum of 4 points

 **Time Line**

* Deadline for submission of application will be March 12, 2012.