Monte and Usha Ahuja International Student Achievement Award

The Monte and Usha Ahuja International Student Achievement Award was created to acknowledge the outstanding achievement and leadership of international students enrolled at Cleveland State University. This Award honors Monte and Usha Ahuja, who enable international students to study at Cleveland State University through the Ahuja Endowed Scholarship Fund and were international students on their academic journeys. Two awards will be given each year, one at the graduate level and one at the undergraduate level, to students who have demonstrated excellence in academic achievement and shown a commitment to campus and/or community engagement in fostering the international learning experience. The Award is a recognition of the outstanding contributions of international students to the Cleveland State University community.

The receipt will also receive a cash award of $250.

Award Criteria

- International graduate student
- Academic excellence; minimum GPA requirement is 3.0
- Completed one semester at CSU and be enrolled full-time

Nominations

- Faculty, administrators, staff, student organizations, and students are invited to nominate students for this Award
- Self-nominations will not be accepted

Nomination Process

All nominations must be submitted via the **online nomination form**.

- **CV** of the nominee
- **Nomination letter** highlighting the nominee's qualification in the categories such as:
    - Leadership or significant involvement in campus activities, international and cultural programs specifically
    - Demonstrated commitment to celebrating and promoting international perspectives
    - Openness about their personal experiences and perspectives in support of global understanding within their community and field of study
    - Leadership in fostering collaboration and coalition-building between people and groups from international backgrounds
    - Ability to use their own international education experiences to empower their peers to enrich their global perspectives and pursue international learning opportunities
- **Minimum of two support letters from another student(s) or colleague(s)** who also benefited from the nominee's support.

Selection

- The College of Graduate Studies and the director (or representative) of the Center for International Services & Programs will select the graduate recipient.
- For the graduate student awards, all nominations are due by noon on **Friday, January 15, 2027**. All nomination materials must be submitted using the following link: Monte and Usha Ahuja International Student Achievement Award – Fill out form