Dissertation Grant Opportunities

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
Grants for Health Services Research Dissertation (R36)

Submission Dates: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 annually

Award: Total direct costs may not exceed $40,000 for entire project period (9-17 mos.)
AHRQ has identified strategic goals as priority research areas. Research applicants must address one of these areas. Applicants are strongly encouraged to focus on topical areas unique to AHRQ, demonstrating how expected results can be used or made available for use to enhance patient safety and quality of care. Results should be directly relevant to customers, such as providers and practitioners, administrators, payers, consumers, policymakers, and insurers. The strategic research goals are:

- **Safety/Quality**: Reduce the risk of harm from health care services by promoting the delivery of appropriate care that achieves the best quality outcomes.
- **Efficiency**: Achieve wider access to effective health care services and reduce health care costs.
- **Effectiveness**: Assure that providers and consumers/patients use beneficial and timely health care information to make informed decision choices.


Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Grants for Public Health Research Dissertations (R36)

Submission Date(s): April 10, August 10, annually
Letters of Intent Receipt Date(s): 30 days before receipt date
Award: average $35,000 total direct costs for one year, with possibility of extension without additional funds for up to 12 months

This program supports research undertaken as part of an academic program to qualify for a doctorate. The CDC dissertation award supports dissertation research costs for students in accredited research doctoral programs in the United States (including Puerto Rico, and other U.S. Territories or possessions). Grant support is designed to encourage doctoral candidates from a variety of academic disciplines and programs to conduct research in these areas of interest to CDC. It is hoped that this program will ultimately facilitate the entry of promising new investigators into the field of public health research. The average award amount will be $35,000 in direct costs per year, and are awarded for up to one year, with the possibility of extension without additional funds for up to 12 months.

Addendum: The National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/, has particular interest in supporting dissertation research on 1) survey methodology and statistics or 2) projects using NCHS data sets along or in conjunction with other data sets. Dissertation applications must focus on methodological and research topics that address the mission and
research areas of CDC. Questions about NCHS-related proposals may be sent to Virginia S. Cain, PhD, Director of Extramural Research, vcain@cdc.gov


**National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)**

**Drug Abuse Dissertation Research: Epidemiology, Prevention, Treatment, Services, and Women and Sex/Gender Differences (R36)**

Submission Date(s): February 16, June 16, October 16, annually
AIDS Applications Submission Date(s): January 2, May 1, September 1, annually
Expiration Date: January 27, 2013

Award: Total direct costs up to $50,000 per year for up to 2 years
The purpose of the grant is to support drug abuse doctoral dissertation research in epidemiology, prevention, treatment, services, and women and sex/gender differences, areas in which there is a significant need for new investigators. Grant support is designed to encourage doctoral candidates from a variety of academic disciplines and programs to conduct research in these areas of interest to NIDA. It is hoped that this program will ultimately facilitate the entry of promising new investigators into the field of drug abuse research. Special attention will be given to recruiting individuals from racial or ethnic groups underrepresented in the biomedical or behavioral sciences.


**Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Awards for Individual Pre-doctoral Fellows (F31)**

Submission Date(s): April 13, August 13, December 13, annually
AIDS Applications Submission Date(s): January 7, May 7, September 7, annually
Expiration Date: September 8, 2012

Award: Stipend (for current stipend rate: [click here](http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-09-208.html)) plus 60% of tuition & fees up to $16,000 for up to 5 years.
The objective of the Kirschstein-NRSA Individual Predoctoral Fellowship (F31) is to provide support for promising doctoral candidates who will be performing dissertation research and training in scientific health-related fields relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes during the tenure of the award. Applicants must be at the dissertation research stage of their training. The proposed predoctoral research training must offer an opportunity to enhance the fellow's understanding of the health-related sciences and extend his/her potential for a productive, independent research career.


**National Science Foundation (NSF)**

**SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants**
The National Science Foundation's Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS), Division of Social and Economic Sciences (SES), and Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS) award grants to doctoral students to improve the quality of dissertation research. These grants provide funds for items not normally available through the student's university. Additionally, these grants allow doctoral students to undertake significant data-gathering projects and to conduct field research in settings away from their campus that would not otherwise be possible. Proposals are judged on the basis of their scientific merit, including the theoretical importance of the research question and the appropriateness of the proposed data and methodology to be used in addressing the question. In an effort to improve the quality of dissertation research, many programs in BCS, SES, and the Research on Science and Technology Surveys and Statistics Program within SRS accept doctoral dissertation improvement grant proposals. Items such as budget limitations, target dates and/or deadlines, page length restrictions, and review procedures vary widely across programs. Please consult the relevant program's web page for specific information and contact the program director if necessary. The following programs support dissertation research: Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (BCS); Archaeology; Cultural Anthropology; Geography & Regional Science; Linguistics; Physical Anthropology; Division of Social and Economic Sciences (SES); Decision, Risk & Management Sciences; Economics; Law & Social Science; Methodology, Measurement, and Statistics; Political Science; Science and Society; Sociology; Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS); Research on Science and Technology Surveys and Statistics Program.

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=13453&org=SBE&sel_org=SBE&from=fund

American Association of University Women (AAUW)

American Dissertation Fellowships

Submission Date: November 15
Award: $20,000

American Fellowships support women doctoral candidates completing dissertations or scholars seeking funds for postdoctoral research leave from accredited institutions. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of scholarly excellence, teaching experience, and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research. To qualify, applicants must have completed all course work, passed all required preliminary examinations, and received approval for their research proposal or plan by Nov. 15. Open to applicants in all fields of study, except engineering.

http://www.aauw.org/learn/fellows_directory/

Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation

Dissertation Fellowships

Submission Date: February 1
Award: $15,000

The foundation welcomes proposals from any of the natural and social sciences and the humanities that promise to increase understanding of the causes, manifestations, and control of violence, aggression, and dominance. Highest priority is given to research that can increase understanding and amelioration of urgent problems of violence, aggression, and dominance in the modern world. In addition to our program of support for postdoctoral research, ten or more dissertation fellowships are awarded each year to individuals who will complete the writing of the dissertation within the award year. These fellowships are designed to contribute to the support of the doctoral candidate to enable him or her to complete the thesis in a timely manner, and it is only appropriate to apply for support for the final year of Ph.D. work. Applicants may be citizens of any country and studying at colleges or universities in any country.

Particular questions that interest the foundation concern violence, aggression, and dominance in relation to social change, the socialization of children, intergroup conflict, interstate warfare, crime, family relationships, and investigations of the control of aggression and violence.

Research with no useful relevance to understanding and attempting to cope with problems of human violence and aggression will not be supported, nor will proposals to investigate urgent social problems where the foundation cannot be assured that useful, sound research can be done. Priority will also be given to areas and methodologies not receiving adequate attention and support from other funding sources.

http://www.hfg.org/df/guidelines.htm

National Development and Research Institutes, Inc.
Predoctoral Fellowships: Behavioral Science Training in Drug Abuse Research

Submission Date: Rolling Admission

Award: Initially awarded up to 12 months and renewable up to 4 more years. Fellows receive an annual stipend of $21,180 (2010 rate), health insurance, tuition and fees at the university where pursuing degree, and modest amount for travel and research-related expenses.

This predoctoral program supports behavioral scientists in conducting their dissertation research and pursuing scientific careers in the areas of drug use/misuse and HIV/AIDS. Predoctoral Fellows will work in New York City to develop knowledge of and skills in drug abuse research through hands-on experience and formal training. Dissertations may be on any topic related to drug abuse and HIV/AIDS. Opportunities exist for working with senior project directors on current research projects. Examples of on-going projects include studies related to drug abuse and crime, intravenous drug use, HIV/AIDS, prenatal and maternal drug use, treatment of mentally ill drug abusers, co-occurring disorders, teen drug use and psychosocial health, and evaluations of drug treatment programs. Numerous data sets are available in these and other areas of drug abuse for developing thesis topics.

http://www.ndri.org/jobs/predoc.html

Ford Foundation Predoctoral and Dissertation Fellowship
Through its Fellowship Programs, the Ford Foundation seeks to increase the diversity of the nation’s college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity, to maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and to increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.

**Eligibility:** Predoctoral fellowships and dissertation fellowships will be awarded to citizens or nationals of the U.S.

**Application Deadline:** November 1

**Stipend:** Each predoctoral fellowship includes an annual stipend of $12,000. The fellowship institution will receive $6,000 for tuition and fees. Support is provided for up to three years provided the fellow makes satisfactory progress toward the degree.

http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/fordfellowships/

**Jennings Randolph Peace Scholarship Dissertation Program**
The Jennings Randolph (JR) Program for International Peace awards nonresidential Peace Scholar Dissertation Scholarships to students at U.S. universities who are writing doctoral dissertations on topics related to peace, conflict, and international security.

Each year the program awards approximately ten Peace Scholar Fellowships. Fellowships last for 10 months starting in September. Fellowships are open to citizens of any country. Dissertation projects in all disciplines are welcome.

http://www.usip.org/fellows/scholars.html

**HUD Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant Program**
The Doctoral Dissertation Research Grant program is intended to stimulate policy-relevant urban research in several ways: by encouraging doctoral candidates to pursue research topics in community, housing, and urban development; by assisting doctoral candidates in the timely completion of the dissertation research; and by providing an arena for new scholars to share their research findings.

**Type of Assistance:**
HUD competitively awards one-time grants of $15,000 per student each year to approximately 15 doctoral candidates currently enrolled in accredited programs.