



Office of Graduate Fellowships

Fellowship Opportunities for:

International Students

Introduction

International students face special challenges when it comes to graduate fellowships. Because many fellowship programs are restricted to U.S. citizens and permanent residents, opportunities for international students are harder to come by. This also means that programs with no citizenship restrictions can be intensely competitive, particularly if they are open to a wide range of disciplines or fields. There are, nonetheless, opportunities that are open to international students, especially at the doctoral / Ph.D. level. The following list contains examples of awards across a variety of disciplines and fields that are open to international students – including both awards targeted at international students and those that simply impose no citizenship or residency requirements.

This list is by no means comprehensive, and students are encouraged to search for funding opportunities that may be uniquely targeted to their field, topic, or national/ethnic identity. Online funding databases are a good place to start because they allow you to conduct a wide search – and most even allow you to filter your results for opportunities open to international students. For a list of online funding databases, please visit: <http://gradfellows.gmu.edu/search/> Professional organizations, listservs, and private foundations can also help guide you to awards targeted at a specific field of study, and are more likely to be open to international student applicants.

Be aware that ALL graduate fellowship opportunities are extremely competitive, and require planning far in advance. It is also important to have a backup plan. Most fellowship programs receive far more qualified applications than they have the funds to support, meaning that even many outstanding candidates will be turned away. It is also important to understand that most awards provide only partial funding and/or set limits on how funding can be used. They should be approached more as a professional honor and a way to enhance your research than a financial plan. Always have a backup plan in case awards are not granted. The key to realistic planning is to start early and familiarize yourself with the opportunities that are most relevant to you. The Office of Graduate fellowships is available to provide advising, support, and feedback on graduate fellowship proposals.

AERA Dissertation Grants

<http://www.aera.net/Professional-Opportunities-Funding/AERA-Funding-Opportunities/Grants-Program/Dissertation-Grants>

Dissertation completion fellowship of \$20,000 for education-related research using large-scale national and international data sets. Applicant need not be in an Education PhD program to apply.

AIS Junior Fellowships

<http://www.indiastudies.org/research-fellowship-programs/>

Supports candidates in all fields of study to conduct doctoral dissertation research in India. Postdoctoral, senior, and arts fellowships are also offered.

American Association for University Women (AAUW) - International Fellowships

http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships_grants/international.cfm

Full-time study or research funding for women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents; graduate and postgraduate study is supported.

Chateaubriand Fellowship

<http://www.chateaubriand-fellowship.org/>

The Chateaubriand Fellowship supports outstanding doctoral students enrolled in American universities to conduct research in France for 4-9 months in a wide range of fields, including both Social Science/Humanities and STEM fields. French citizens not eligible.

Cosmos Scholarships

<http://www.cosmosclubfoundation.org/scholars/>

Small grants (\$500-\$4,000) in support of graduate level research in any field. Limited to graduate students at DC metro area universities.

Davis-Putter Scholarships

<http://www.davisputter.org/>

Need-based grants (up to \$10,000) to undergraduate or graduate student activists working for peace and justice on campus and/or in the community. Preference is given to applicants who show an interest in continuing their activism in the U.S. after graduation.

Economic Club of Washington DC: Dearborn and Jordan Fellowships

<http://www.economicclub.org/philip-m-dearborn-vernon-e-jordan-jr-doctoral-fellowships>

Three \$10,000 awards offered annually to students in the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area (including George Mason University) to support doctoral-level research on economics, public and private finance, international trade/business, education, transportation, law enforcement, social welfare, housing, and regional/community development (particularly as it relates to the Washington DC metro area.)

Explorers Club Exploration Fund

http://www.explorers.org/index.php/expeditions/funding/expedition_grants

Provides grants in support of exploration and field research in fields related to the environment, earth science, anthropology, geography, archaeology, botany, and conservation. Average award around \$2,500.

Graduate Women in Science

http://www.gwis.org/?page=fellowship_program

Awards of up to \$10,000 for women conducting hypothesis-driven research in the sciences in the context of graduate, postdoctoral, or early career position. Funds support direct research costs.

Dr. Kathryn E. Ágoston, Director of Graduate Fellowships, George Mason University

kagoston@gmu.edu • 703-993-3131 • <http://gradfellows.gmu.edu> • Twitter @GradFellowsGMU

Harry Frank Guggenheim Dissertation Fellowships

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

Dissertation completion fellowship for candidates whose Ph.D. research concerns issues of violence and aggression in society. No citizenship restrictions.

Institute for Humane Studies - Humane Studies Fellowships

<https://theihs.org/funding/humane-studies-fellowship/>

Awards of up to \$15,000 for PhD students in humanities and social science fields pursuing research dedicated to the advancement of classical liberal/libertarian ideals.

Jennings Randolph Peace Scholarship Dissertation Program

<https://www.usip.org/grants-fellowships/jennings-randolph-peace-scholarship-dissertation-program/peace-scholar-applicati-0>

Supports doctoral dissertations that explore the sources and nature of international conflict, and strategies to prevent or end conflict and to sustain peace.

Josephine de Karman Fellowships

<http://www.dekarman.org>

Fellowship of \$25,000 to support the final year of dissertation completion. Open to all fields of study; special consideration will be given to applicants in the Humanities.

Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund Scholarships

<http://www.mmeg.org/apply/>

For women from developing countries currently studying in the U.S. or Canada who will be at least 25 years of age in the year of application. Awards are based on both merit and demonstrated need. Special emphasis on service toward improving the lives of women and children in developing countries.

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships

<http://www.acls.org/programs/acf/>

Dissertation completion fellowship for students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. \$30,000 stipend plus allowances for research and university fees.

NAEd / Spencer Dissertation Fellowship

<https://naeducation.org/naedspencer-dissertation-fellowship-program/>

Dissertation completion fellowship of \$27,500 for research relevant to the improvement of education. Candidates need not be in an Education PhD program; any relevant field is eligible.

NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants (DDRIG)

https://www.nsf.gov/funding/education.jsp?fund_type=2

Grants to doctoral students in select disciplines in the sciences and social sciences to support costs related to dissertation research (ranging typically from \$10,000-\$20,000). Requirements & deadlines vary by field.

Open Society Foundations

<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/grants/>

The Open Society Foundations offer a variety of grant programs, some of which are open to graduate students. Programs and eligibility requirements vary from year to year, but include occasional grants for international graduate students to pursue studies in the U.S. or conduct research worldwide.

P.E.O. International Peace Scholarship

<https://www.peointernational.org/about-peo-international-peace-scholarship-ips>

Grants to female international students to pursue or continue graduate studies in the United States and Canada. Maximum award is \$10,000. Both merit and need are taken into account.

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Smithsonian Fellowships

<http://www.si.edu/ofg/fell.htm>

The Smithsonian offers fellowships in a variety of fields and at all levels (graduate, pre-doctoral, post-doctoral, senior.) Some opportunities are open to international students and/or non-US citizens.

SSRC International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF)

<http://www.ssrc.org/fellowships/idrf-fellowship/>

Supports 3-12 months of dissertation field research outside the US in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. A more limited amount of site-specific comparative research in the U.S. may also be eligible for support.

Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation

<https://woodrow.org/>

The Woodrow Wilson Foundation offers two dissertation fellowship programs open to international graduate students. The Newcombe Fellowships focus on dissertations dealing with ethical and religious values. The Women's Studies Fellowships focus on dissertation topics in women's and gender studies.

World Politics and Statecraft Fellowship Program

<https://www.srf.org/programs/international-security-foreign-policy/world-politics-statecraft-fellowship/>

Up to 20 grants of \$7,500 each to support Ph.D dissertations on American foreign policy, international relations, international security, strategic studies, and diplomatic and military history. Funds can be used for fieldwork, archival research, and language training in the context of advanced doctoral research.

Zonta International Amelia Earhardt Fellowship for Women

<http://www.zonta.org/WhatWeDo/InternationalPrograms/AmeliaEarhartFellowship.aspx>

For women in aerospace-related science/engineering programs to undertake research toward a Ph.D.

To learn more, visit the Office of Graduate Fellowships at <http://gradfellows.gmu.edu> and try the following search engines:

University of Illinois Graduate College Fellowship Finder:

<https://app.grad.illinois.edu/fellowship/>

UCLA Graduate Funding Search Tool:

<https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/>

Duke University Research Funding Search Tool:

<https://researchfunding.duke.edu/>

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