Funding Graduate School

Road Map to Graduate School
Grainger College of Engineering
October 6, 2021

Ken Vickery, PhD
Director of Fellowships
Graduate College
vickeryk@illinois.edu
217-333-3464
Graduate School is EXPENSIVE

First steps:

1. **Assess costs.**
   - Calculate costs *before* you decide on a university.
   - Determine cost of education at that school AND cost of living in that locale.

2. **Read offer letter closely.**
   - Examine details regarding funding amount, duration, waivers, fee coverage, benefits, etc.

3. **Be proactive in seeking answers to your questions.**
Types of Funding

• Loans

• Supplemental Employment

• Merit-Based Awards
  Assistantships (internal)
  Fellowships (internal or external)
Loans

• Graduate students may be eligible for student loans.
  
  - Unsubsidized federal direct student loans, with $20,500 annual limit & $138,500 aggregate limit (includes amount borrowed for undergrad).
  - Grad PLUS (unsubsidized loans from Dept of Education, offers up to full cost of attendance).
  - Private loans.

• Borrow wisely! Know your responsibilities before signing.

• Consult university’s financial aid office/website
  - At Illinois, see www.osfa.illinois.edu/aid/loans
Supplemental Employment

CAMPUS JOB BOARDS

Assistantship Clearinghouse
The Graduate College Assistantship Clearinghouse lists assistantships that are available to graduate students on the Urbana campus. If you are a unit wishing to post an assistantship, please use the Assistantship Posting Form.

Virtual Job Board
The Virtual Job Board is a service provided to the students of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign by Student Employment. This job board is intended to assist students in finding part-time employment on campus to help them in meeting their needs while pursuing an education at this University.

Handshake @ Illinois Job Board
Handshake @ Illinois contains postings for internships and national employment opportunities as well as local, part-time employment. Handshake is used by over 230,000 employers around the world. Find out what else you can do in Handshake.

Research Park Job Board
Employers at the Research Park are looking for undergraduate and graduate students to hold internships and part-time employment during the summer and academic year.
Assistantships

• Internal (awarded by university).

• Two main types:
  • Teaching Assistantship - primarily in support of instruction.
  • Research Assistantship - primarily involves applying and mastering research concepts, practices, or methods of scholarship.

• It’s a job: teaching, research, administrative.

• Usually provides stipend & coverage of tuition & fees.
Fellowships

- Competitively awarded funding packages
  - stipend, tuition, fees
- Fellowships vs. grants
- Types: internal vs. external
- Duration: usually 1-3 years
- Levels:
  - predoctoral
  - dissertation research
  - dissertation write-up
External Fellowships

Benefits

Money

- Long-lasting skill
- Improved dissertation
- Time
- Prestige
Where to search?

University of Illinois
Graduate College’s
Fellowship Finder database
FELLOWSHIP FINDER
The Illinois Database of Grants and Fellowships for Graduate Students

FELLOWSHIP
- Science
- Social Sciences
- Professional Programs
- Fine Arts
- Miscellaneous

CITIZENSHIP
- US Citizen
- Permanent Resident
- International Student

STATUS OF STUDY FOR WHICH YOU SEEK FUNDING
- Doctor of Philosophy
- Master's
- Early Years of Doctoral Program
- Dissertation Research
- Dissertation Work-Up
- Postdoctoral/Pre-graduate

AIDED TYPE
- Fellowships/Grants
- Research/Study/Travel
- Foreign Language Training
- Other, Please Specify

SEXUALITY
- Unmarried
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Single
- Lesbian
- Gay/Lesbian

LIMIT RESULTS TO
- Awards at least $10,000
- Listings added or updated in the last 30 days

SEARCH

If you have questions or need help using this system, please contact support.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWARDS</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
<th>DEADLINE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acoustical Society of America (ASA) - Stetson Graduate Scholarship</td>
<td>$33,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>in Phonetics and Speech Science</td>
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<td>Alberta Learning Information Service (ALIS) - Sir James Lougheed</td>
<td>$15,000-$20,000</td>
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<td>Graduate Scholarships</td>
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<td>American Anthropological Association (AAA) - Dissertation Fellowship</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Anticipated 3/2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>for Historically Underrepresented Persons in Anthropology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Need-based dissertation write-up fellowships for historically</td>
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<td>underrepresented minority students in anthropology</td>
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<td>American Association of University Women (AAUW) - American</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dissertation Completion Fellowships</td>
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<td>for women in any discipline who are US citizens or permanent</td>
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<td>residents</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Association of University Women (AAUW) - International</td>
<td>$16,000-30,000</td>
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<td>Fellowships for women international students at master's, doctoral,</td>
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<td>or postdoctoral level</td>
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<td>American Bar Foundation (ABF) - Fellowship Program in Law &amp;</td>
<td>Up to $70,000</td>
<td>Anticipated 1/2022</td>
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<td>Inequality</td>
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<td>Up to two-year fellowship for empirical and interdisciplinary</td>
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<td>research on the study of law and inequality at the ABF in Chicago</td>
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<td>American Cancer Society - Doctoral Training Grants in Oncology</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
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<td>Social Work</td>
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<td>American Council of Learned Societies / Andrew W. Mellon Foundation</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>(ACLS/Mellon) - Fellowship for Dissertation Completion</td>
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<td>Fellowship for dissertation completion for advanced graduate</td>
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<td>students in the humanities and related social sciences.</td>
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<td>American Educational Research Association (AERA) - Minority</td>
<td>Up to $25,000</td>
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<td>Dissertation Writing Fellowship in Education Research</td>
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<td>Fellowship for educational purposes by underrepresented students at</td>
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<td>the writing state of their dissertation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Educational Research Association (AERA) / National Science</td>
<td>Up to $25,000</td>
<td>Anticipated 11/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation (NSF) - Dissertation Grant</td>
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<td>Grants for dissertation research on US education that uses</td>
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<td>large-scale data sets.</td>
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<td>American Geophysical Union (AGU) - Horton Doctoral Research Grant</td>
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<td>Grant for research in hydrological sciences or water resources</td>
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<td>American Heart Association (AHA) - Predoctoral Fellowship</td>
<td>Up to $64,072</td>
<td>9/14/2021</td>
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<td>Up to two-year fellowship for clinical, basic, and community</td>
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<td>health research aimed at improving global cardiovascular,</td>
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<td>cerebrovascular, and brain health</td>
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<td>American Historical Association (AHA) and the National Aeronautics</td>
<td>$21,250</td>
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<td>&amp; Space Administration (NASA) - Doctoral &amp; Postdoctoral Fellowships</td>
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<tr>
<td>in Aerospace History 5-9 month fellowships for research on the</td>
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<td>aerospace history at select archives in the Washington, D.C. area.</td>
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<td>Fellowship Finder</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Bar Foundation (ABF) - Fellowship</td>
<td>Up to $70,000</td>
<td>Anticipated 1/2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Center for Engaged Scholarship (CES) - Dissertation Completion Fellowship</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
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<td>Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange - Doctoral Fellowship for non-ROC Citizens</td>
<td>Up to $20,000</td>
<td>10/15/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council for European Studies (CES) - Mellon-CES Dissertation Completion Fellowship</td>
<td>$27,500</td>
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<td>Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR) - Mellon Fellowship for Dissertation Research in Original Sources</td>
<td>Up to $25,000</td>
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<td>Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) - Minority Fellowship Program for Doctoral Students in Mental Health and Substance Abuse</td>
<td>$24,000 - $72,000</td>
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<td>D. Kim Foundation for the History of Science and Technology in East Asia - Graduate and Postdoctoral Fellowships &amp; Travel Grant</td>
<td>$2,500-$55,000</td>
<td>10/1/2021 Anticipated 5/2022</td>
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<td>Dan David Prize - Doctoral Scholarship</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>Anticipated 3/2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harvard University - Harvard Academy for International and Area Studies - Academy Scholars Program - Dissertation &amp; Postdoctoral Fellowships</td>
<td>$70,000-$140,000</td>
<td>10/1/2021</td>
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</tbody>
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Fellowship Finder

Open Technology Fund (OTF) - Information Controls Fellowship Program (ICFP)

Deadline: 6/30/2021

The Information Controls Fellowship Program (ICFP) cultivates research, outputs, and creative collaboration on topics related to repressive internet censorship and surveillance. Fellows will embed with a host organization for the duration of their fellowship, including both academic and non-academic institutions. The program is highly interdisciplinary, with candidates from multiple fields, including computer science, engineering, information security research, software development, social sciences, law, and data visualization. The fellowship offers support for 3, 6, 9, or 12 months.

Eligibility:
The ICFP is open to:
- Doctoral students and post-doctoral researchers.
- Applicants of any citizenship, except for citizens of nations that the United States has trade restrictions or export sanctions.

Amount:
- $5,000 monthly stipend.
- $1,250 - $5,000 for travel, depending on the length of the fellowship.

Contact:
Open Technology Fund
Information Controls Fellowship Program
Email: info@opentechfund.org
URL: https://www.opentechfund.org/icfp

Our full listing

INFORMATION CONTROLS FELLOWSHIP

Next deadline
Jun 30, 2021
Apply for this Fund

The Information Controls Fellowship Program (ICFP) cultivates research, outputs, and creative collaboration on topics related to repressive Internet censorship and surveillance. The 2021 application window will be open from May 17, 2021 until June 30, 2021.

Setting the stage
The Information Controls Fellowship Program (ICFP) supports examination into how governments in countries, regions, or areas of OTF’s core focus are restricting the free flow of information, cutting access to the open Internet, and implementing censorship mechanisms, thereby threatening the ability of global citizens to exercise basic human rights and democracy; work focused on mitigation of such threats is also supported.

Fellowship Information
- Three, six, nine or twelve month fellowships available
- Usually offered to postdoctoral, doctoral students, and experienced researchers with demonstraded ability and expertise
- Monthly stipend of $5,000 USD

Funder website
OFFICE OF EXTERNAL FELLOWSHIPS

The Office of External Fellowships helps Illinois graduate students compete for external grants and fellowships. The office is staffed by proposal writing experts with years of experience helping students craft effective proposals.

Whereas "internal" awards are those offered by your department or the University, "external" awards are those national and international awards offered by private foundations, government agencies, and corporations. External funders include the National Science Foundation, Ford Foundation, American Association of University Women, National Institutes of Health, Google, Fulbright, Social Science Research Council, and hundreds of others.

To help students pursue these awards, the Office of External Fellowships provides the following services (click links for details).

**Fellowship Finder Database**

Search the 1,100+ listings in our Fellowship Finder database to find awards that are right for you.

**Grant Writing Workshops**

Learn the art of grant writing by attending one of our workshops.

**Proposal Advising**

Get advice on your proposal draft through our one-on-one reviews.

**Online Proposal Writing Resources**

Find online proposal writing articles, videos, and other materials on our "Proposal Writing Resources" page.

**Sample Proposals**

See what a winning proposal looks like by viewing samples from our collection.

Contact us at ExtFellowships@illinois.edu.
GRANT WRITING WORKSHOPS

The Office of External Fellowships conducts workshops throughout the year to introduce students to the world of fellowships and the art of proposal writing. Most workshops take place in Colle Hall and are advertised through Grad links.

Our primary workshop is a two-hour session that provides an intensive "nuts and bolts" introduction to grant writing. We explain what reviewers want to see in a winning proposal, and we dissect a proposal into its component parts, offering guidance on how to compose each part. We offer one version of the workshop for students in the social sciences and humanities, and another version for students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. We are also available to conduct the workshop for your particular department, class, or interest group.

We also offer informational workshops on select fellowships such as the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, Boren Fellowship, Ford Fellowships, National Institutes of Health's National Research Service Award, Fulbright Research Grant, and Fulbright-Hays Research Abroad Fellowship. These workshops are usually offered once a year.

To supplement our workshops, we have compiled an excellent set of proposal-writing resources, and we have a collection of sample proposals that we keep in our office. We have proposals for NSF, Fulbright, Department of Defense, Fulbright-Hays, Spencer, NIH, DAAD, AARUW, and many others. Contact us if you would like to see any of these.

SEE UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Here's what students and professors say about our workshops:

- The session was simply awesome!
- I have never seen an entire package delivered on this topic. It was seamless.
- I would like to thank you SO much for your awesome presentation today: I felt a lot more prepared to apply for fellowships. As a first-generation doctoral student, seeking funding can be overwhelming due to the lack of exposure, but your workshop has definitely motivated me to apply for several fellowships.
- This workshop has helped me in not only preparing for proposal writing, but also in being more specific on my research topic and what to look forward to for the dissertation process as well. Invaluable experience.
- The presenter was extremely knowledgeable about where and how to look for fellowships. He made the process seem accessible and doable, which was not how I had viewed it previously.
- You gave a superb presentation in every respect – so many concrete tips, so much enthusiasm, and it was all the more effective insofar as it was tailored for our field.
The Office of External Fellowships offers one-on-one reviews of draft proposals for external fellowships or grants. We will critique your proposal and advise you on how to refine it so you can submit the most competitive application you can.

Through this service, we have helped Illinois graduate students win some of the nation’s most prestigious fellowships, including National Science Foundation, Fulbright-Hays, National Institutes of Health, Department of Energy, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Social Science Research Council, American Association of University Women, and many others.

Our reviews are designed to supplement, not replace, the critical guidance of your advisor. Indeed, we require that your advisor review your draft before you submit it to us, and we encourage advisors to be heavily involved in the revision process.

Please note that our advising services are limited to external fellowships and grants. We do not assist with internal funding awards, nor do we review non-funding related research proposals.

Here are the steps for accessing our proposal-review service:

1. Have your advisor review your draft, then make all the revisions your advisor recommends.
2. Email your revised draft to us at info@fellowships.illinois.edu at least one month prior to your application deadline.
3. A member of our staff will review your draft and then contact you to schedule a review session.

Here’s what students and professors say about our proposal advising:

- Your revisions on that application were astounding. They completely transformed my project.
- I just found out I received the NSF ERC this year. I just wanted to thank you so, so much for your help with my application. It was incredibly helpful to be able to seek your advice and hear your thoughts about what I wrote. I feel so fortunate to be at a university that is so supportive of graduate student fellowship applications, and to have had your guidance during the application process. Thank you so much for all of your insights and help!
- I can’t tell you how grateful I am for this process of revising my proposal. Your comments are excellent and helping me to open new vistas for my project that I myself had only vague inklings of.
- I am very happy to say that I received the NSF CRIF award! I wanted to sincerely thank you for the help in editing my essays and especially, your feedback on my research proposal. My reviewers commented that the proposal was clear and understandable. So, thank you again, so much. I really appreciate your help!
- Just wanted to let you know that I got the Predoctoral! I wanted to thank you for all your help revising my proposal and all the great comments. I couldn’t have done it without you.
- I appreciate your critical comments. One of my committee told me, “One can only dream to get the kind of detailed critical feedback that he has provided!”
PROPOSAL WRITING RESOURCES

GENERAL GUIDANCE

Getting Started
- Fellowships 101: How to Find Fellowships That Are Right for You – by Karen Ruhleder
- Get an Early Start on This Year’s Fellowships Applications – by Colleen Voigk
- The Art of Proposal Writing: Proposal as Genre – by Karen Ruhleder
- Scholarly Pursuits: A Guide to Professional Development during the Graduate Years (Chapter 5) – by Cynthia Verbe
- Dissertation Proposal Resources: Nuts & Bolts – University of California Berkeley, Institute of International Studies
- Dissertation Proposal Resources: Style – University of California Berkeley, Institute of International Studies
- Grant Writing Tips for Graduate Students – Chronicle of Higher Education
- Art of Grantsmanship – Human Frontier Science Program

Guidance for Social Sciences and Humanities
- The Making of a Successful Proposal – University of California, Berkeley
- The Art of Writing Proposals – Social Science Research Council
- Dr. Kenny’s Approved Grant Template – by Karen Kelby
- Writing Proposals for ACLS Fellowship Competitions – American Council of Learned Societies

Guidance for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)
- A Guide to Preparing Fellowship Applications in STEM – by Karen Ruhleder
- Writing Successful Science Proposals, 2nd Edition – by Andrew Friedland and Carol Folt
- Writing Science: How to Write Papers that Get Cited and Proposals that Get Funded – by Joshua Schimmel

RESOURCES FOR MAJOR COMPETITIONS

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF-GRF)
- NSF-GRFP Insights: Application Resources for the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (courtesy of Dr. Robin)
Viel Glück  
Bafta  
Bonne chance

Удачи  
buena suerte

행운을 빌어요  
Boa Sorte!

好运  
In bocca al lupo!

Kila la kheri!  
 Ugurlar  
Good Luck