
Summer 2020 Research Fellowships

Overview

Summer Research Fellowships provide financial support to graduate students during the summer term, allowing students to devote significant time to their dissertation or thesis research. The intent of the award is to foster greater professional productivity and to assist in timely degree completion.

Summer Research Fellowships are awarded on a competitive basis. Applicants must submit materials via the Office of the Provost application portal by Friday, January 24, 2020 (see **Application Process**). Recipients will be notified by Monday, February 24, 2020.

Eligibility Criteria

- **Applicants must be doctoral or master's students that are listed in university records as being in full-time status during both fall 2019 and spring 2020 semesters.** Applicants are responsible for confirming that the appropriate forms (e.g. Full-Time Equivalent Status form, etc.) have been filed with the Registrar's office so that their enrollment status is appropriately recorded.
- Applicants may **not** currently hold a fellowship that offers funding through the summer.
- Applicants may **not** hold an assistantship or accept outside employment during the award period.
- **Doctoral students** must have **advanced to candidacy as defined by their degree program by May 4, 2020 (last day of classes)**.
- **Master's and doctoral students** must provide written verification of thesis/dissertation proposal acceptance by their thesis/dissertation chair/committee no later than May 4, 2020 (last day of classes).

Award

- Fellowship amount: \$7,000 for doctoral students; \$5,000 for master's students.
- Term of award: Summer 2020 (May 18 – August 22).
- Enrollment in summer coursework beyond dissertation or thesis credits must be approved in advance by the Associate Provost for Graduate Education.
- Student must submit a summary of the work produced by September 1, 2020.
- Student's thesis or dissertation chair must be willing to provide a written evaluation of student's work, at the conclusion of the fellowship, by September 1, 2020.
- **Doctoral students** are expected to apply to compete in Mason's 2021 3MT™ after completion of the fellowship. **Master's students** are expected to present a poster or make an oral presentation in the 2021 Mason Graduate Interdisciplinary Conference after completion of the fellowship. See [here](#) for more details.

Questions?

Contact Akitta Robertson,
geaward@gmu.edu or 703.993.8912.
<https://provost.gmu.edu/academics-and-research/graduate-education>

Application Process

Students must submit the following materials via the Office of the Provost application portal (located on our website) by 5:00 pm, Friday, January 24, 2020:

1. Strict Guidelines for Narrative

- Limit two pages; one-inch margins; double-spaced; Times, 12-pt. font.
- Student's full name and degree program and G number must appear in the header on each page, e.g., "Jane Doe, PhD Communication, G55555555".
- Include brief description of thesis/dissertation research.
- Include research goals for the summer and how these goals fit within the broader research agenda.
- Include specific plans for executing research and attaining goals during award term.

2. Budget Statement

- Limit 500 words; one page, one-inch margins.
- Describe clearly how the funds will be used/allocated (i.e. research travel, living expenses, etc.).
- State whether other funds have been sought or received for the work proposed.

3. Letter of Recommendation

- One letter of recommendation is required from thesis/dissertation chair and should include verification of eligibility.
- Recommendation letter must be submitted by thesis/dissertation chair **directly** via the Office of the Provost application portal. Once students have completed their application, an email will be sent directly from the portal with instructions on how to submit LOR.