Grant Connection

SPRING INTO FUNDING!
It's never too early to begin looking into sources of funding for your dissertation year. Many federal and private sources are eager to fund innovative, topical dissertation projects. The GRSC has picked out a few to get you started.

AERA Dissertation Grants ➝ tinyurl.com/8hapfp5
$20,000 Deadline: late summer 2013
AERA invites education-related dissertation proposals using NCES, NSF, and other federal databases. Dissertation Grants are available for advanced doctoral students and are intended to support the student while writing the doctoral dissertation. Applications are encouraged from a variety of disciplines, including education, psychology, statistics, and psychometrics.

NAEd/Spencer Dissertation Fellowship ➝ tinyurl.com/ch2qwnb
$25,000 Deadline: fall 2013
The Dissertation Fellowship Program seeks to encourage a new generation of scholars from a wide range of disciplines and professional fields to undertake research relevant to the improvement of education. These $25,000 fellowships support individuals whose dissertations show potential for bringing fresh and constructive perspectives to the history, theory, or practice of formal or informal education anywhere in the world.

AAUW Dissertation Fellowship ➝ tinyurl.com/apmcfng
$20,000 Deadline: fall 2013
Dissertation fellowships are available to women applicants in all fields of study. Scholars engaged in science, technology, engineering, and math fields or researching gender issues are especially encouraged to apply. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of scholarly excellence; quality and originality of project design; and active commitment to helping women and girls through service in their communities, professions, or fields of research.

Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship ➝ tinyurl.com/b3vxe2u
$21,000 Deadline: fall 2013
Dissertation fellowships will be awarded to individuals who, in the judgment of the review panels, have demonstrated superior academic achievement, are committed to a career in teaching and research at the college or university level, show promise of future achievement as scholars and teachers, and are well prepared to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.
Grant Connection
March Deadlines

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15 PAGs Service Grant
This grant provides funding to graduate and professional students who wish to conduct service projects or be key participants in service projects that are viable, relevant, sustainable, and of impact to the community.

MORE INFO: tinyurl.com/bfv5ly7

15 Janet Hyde Graduate Student Research Grant
These $500 grants support feminist research by doctoral psychology students. Made possible through the generosity of Janet Shibley Hyde, PhD.

MORE INFO: tinyurl.com/b5zymhh

22 Epilepsy Foundation Student Fellowship
These $3000 awards support graduate students studying a field relevant to epilepsy research and clinical care, including psychology.

MORE INFO: tinyurl.com/bq3qbzh

28 GSS Travel Funds
This award offers limited funds to pay a portion of both domestic and international travel expenses for graduate students who must travel for the completion of a graduate project.

MORE INFO: tinyurl.com/b8l9fw7

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Grant & Research Services Center
N438 Lindquist Center
Iowa City, IA 52242
Students
Mar 2013

For example, I have been working with teachers, students, and researchers. Sharing experiences with different groups of people brings different perspectives, which help me grow academically.

What advice would you give students who want to get funded through research?

Find the topics that you are interested in, but be open to learning new knowledge and skills so you do not limit yourself. More importantly, there is a lot of funding waiting, so do not wait for opportunity. You have to go out there, meet and talk to people, develop connections, and create opportunities for yourself.

How did you attain your research assistantship?

I was fortunate that Prof. Hand offered me the research assistantship for the SWH project when I was a first year, and I have been working with the project since then.

How has your research helped you grow as a student?

In my opinion, conducting research helps me develop a better understanding of educational theory and classroom practice. Most importantly, research helps me bridge theory and practice together and pushes my understanding forward. When we go out to a research field, collect data, or analyze data, we have an opportunity to apply our understanding of the theories from our classroom to the real practice. Then we develop insight and push our knowledge forward from issues, dilemmas, conflicts and/or success that we experience while we go out there doing research. In addition, research has exposed me to a wide range of opportunities and people.

Describe the research you are working on.

I have been working as a research assistant with Prof. Brian Hand in the Science Writing Heuristic (SWH) project since 2007. The SWH project aims to study how to help both teachers and students be successful in the science classroom. This is a big project relating to a wide array of tasks and research questions and methodologies. For example, we studied how the SWH approach helps students develop scientific conceptual understanding and critical thinking skills. Second, I am currently working on my dissertation, which is directly related to the SWH approach. My dissertation explores the longitudinal impact of the SWH approach on student achievement. We are analyzing more than ten years of student’s ITBS scores and comparing the growth before and after students are exposed to the SWH approach in their science classroom. The initial results clearly showed that the SWH approach helps students, especially disadvantaged groups, learn science better.