HUMANE STUDIES FELLOWSHIP

Eligibility: PhD students in sociology, history, and anthropology interested in classical liberal ideas and the principles of a free society.
Award: up to $15,000
Deadline: April 30, 2021

Looking Ahead

AERA (AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION) GRANT

Eligibility: PhD students (especially underrepresented minorities, women, individuals with disabilities and veterans) in education and related fields (economics, political science, psychology, sociology, demography, statistics, public police and psychometrics) using rigorous quantitative methods to examine large-scale, education-related data.
Award: $25,000
Deadline: May 12, 2021

SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH (SAR) RESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR FELLOWSHIPS

Eligibility: ABD PhD students in sociology and social sciences who are writing dissertations on “topics important to the understanding of humankind.”
Award: Varies
Deadline: September 1
WHY APPLY FOR EXTERNAL FUNDING?

Amid all the other tasks and responsibilities clamoring for our every hour, finding time to write grant applications can seem a herculean task. Still, it’s a task worth taking up for several reasons.

First, and most obviously, grants provide money for research. Sometimes external funding is the difference between attending that conference or researching in that library—or not. External funding can offer otherwise inaccessible opportunities to enrich your research and study. And sometimes, these are precisely the opportunities we need to achieve our goals.

Second, grants offer you recognition. Grants, fellowships, and other awards stand testament to both the significance of your research and your potential as a scholar. One foundation, agency, or organization seeing enough merit in your work to fund it is excellent encouragement for others to do the same. Grants demonstrate that you are at the top of your field and make you more competitive as you progress in your career.

Thirdly, writing grants can advance your research. The process of applying for grants—writing research proposals, purpose statements, abstracts—can often crystallize and solidify your research as you seek to clarify it for a committee of reviewers. In addition, it provides an opportunity to further develop working relationships with mentors and PI’s.

Finally, grant writing is excellent career preparation. As you ready yourself to enter the job market, the ability to write competitive grants and demonstrate that you are capable of funding your own projects is a valuable skill. Indeed, if you anticipate a career in academia, it is likely one you will have to master eventually. Why not gain experience and confidence in writing grant applications as a graduate student, rather than having to do so while establishing yourself in a tenure-track position?

If you’re considering applying for a grant but aren’t sure where to begin, visit our website where we have compiled resources for finding and applying for grants. Or if you would prefer, reach out to us directly (see sidebar for contact information). We offer individual consulting for any part of the grant application process, from identifying the right types of grants for you to polishing a final draft of your research proposal.