



## Pre-Doctoral Awards List

This list is intended to aid American Politics graduate students in identifying funding opportunities that support their research and professional development in the pre-doctoral stage. Additions to this list are warmly encouraged; please email [afagerli@nd.edu](mailto:afagerli@nd.edu).

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# Funding at Notre Dame

## General Research and Conference Awards

### **Graduate Student Research Award (GSRA)**, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA)

Award: up to \$4,000

Description: This grant covers costs related to research that a students' home department is unable to meet. Usual expenses include research materials, undergraduate RAs, transcription and translation services, remote library assistance, survey and computer programming support, and data set/human subject payments.

Restrictions: Funds cannot be used for professional development activities, computer equipment, and software already provided by the University. Funds cannot be used for expenses that have already occurred. For travel expenses, applications are due at least 6 weeks prior to departure.

Application materials: title, abstract, project description, budget, letter of recommendation, IRB approval, c.v.

Deadline: **March 11, 2022** | [Information and application here](#)

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### **Conference Presentation Grant (CPG)**, Graduate Student Government (GSG)

Award: \$250 on average

Description: This grant reimburses graduate students for expenses incurred on travel to conferences and meetings to present original research.

Restrictions: Expense reports must be submitted within 60 days of returning from the conference. Funds cannot be used for alcohol, cash withdrawals, per diem, personal car mileage, poster printing, baggage fees, or memberships.

Application materials: application form, event proposal, budget overview, conference schedule (if available), travel approval (if applicable)

Deadline: **1-3 months prior to the conference** (on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month) | [Information and application here](#)

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### **Graduate School Professional Development Award (GSPDA)**, The Graduate School

Award: up to \$4,000

Description: This grant covers expenses related to conference presentations, workshop or seminar participation, research at other institutions, and other training activities supporting scholarly and professional development.

Restrictions: This grant does not support dissertation research travel (apply to the GSRA instead), nor travel solely for conference attendance (≠ conference presentation), networking, or job interviews.

Application materials: formal proposal, expected budget, conference/workshop/ institution acceptance notification, recommendation letter from advisor or DGS, c.v. (previous GSPDA applicants only), IRB approval (if needed), travel documentation (if applicable)

Deadline: **Any time before event.** Applications are reviewed on the 1st of each month (except January, June, and July – reviewed the following cycles). | [Information and application here](#)

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## Topical Research Awards

### **American Dream Grant**, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA)

Award: up to \$4,500

Description: This grant covers research expenses of projects exploring the **American Dream**. Possible topics include studies of immigration to the United States, the development of American social ideals, changes in real and perceived social mobility in contemporary American society, and how American ideals are understood outside the U.S.

Application materials: title, abstract, project description, budget, letter of recommendation, IRB approval, c.v.

Deadline: **April 9, 2022** | [Information and application here](#)

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### **A Time to Heal Grant**, Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA)

Award: up to \$5,000

Description: Inspired by the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 US presidential election, and acts of violence against marginalized groups, this grant funds research projects dealing with physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, economic, **political**, racial, cultural, and environmental **healing**. This grant is open to PhD, DMA, MFA students as well as all regular faculty members.

Restrictions: Projects should be completed within 12-18 months. Funds cannot be used for applicant stipends, professional development activities, office supplies, publication costs, or computer equipment.

Application materials: abstract, proposal, timeline, budget, advisor's letter of recommendation

Deadline: **Rolling** | [Information and application here](#)

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# External Funding

## General Dissertation Completion Awards

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### **Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant**, American Political Science Association (APSA)

Award: \$10,000-\$15,000

Description: This grant supports doctoral dissertation research in political science that is theoretically derived and empirically oriented. Awardees will also have access to APSA's professional development and public engagement networks and resources.

Restrictions: APSA is committed to supporting research by scholars from groups, institutions, and geographic areas that are underrepresented in political science.

Application materials: proposal summary project description and research plan, other sources of funding, professional development plan, biographical sketch, budget, data management plan, adviser and institutional support forms, research and professional ethics requirements

Deadline: **March 1, 2022** | [Information and application here](#)

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### **Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships**, American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)

Award: \$35,000 stipend + up to \$3,000 for research and up to \$5,000 for university fees

Description: This grant supports the final year of dissertation work in the humanities and interpretive social sciences. The fellowship can be in-residence at the applicant's home institution or at another research site.

Restrictions: Applicants must have completed all requirements for the PhD except the dissertation and be no more than six years into their program at the time of application. They should plan to complete their dissertations no later than August 31, 2024. Applicants cannot have held a previous dissertation completion fellowship, and they cannot hold this fellowship concurrently with any other. ACLS especially welcomes historically underrepresented applicants and applicants whose work focuses on them.

Application materials: application form, proposal, personal statement, timeline, bibliography, completed chapter of the dissertation, two reference letters, institutional support statement

Deadline: **Pending (last was October 27, 2021)** | [Information and application here](#)

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[In-Residence] **Pre-Doctoral Fellowship**, University of Illinois at Springfield

Award: \$30,000

Description: This fellowship supports PhD students in the dissertation stage of their program. Fellows receive support for research, professional travel, and other related expenses. In addition to working with a faculty mentor and having opportunities to present their research, fellows will teach one course each semester in an area related to their academic work.

Restrictions: Applicants must have defended their prospectus and finished all coursework by August 16, 2022, with an anticipated degree date of Spring/Summer 2023. Applicants who would enhance the diversity of UIS faculty and who have experience in diversity programs are encouraged to apply.

Application materials: curriculum vitae, cover letter, contact information of dissertation advisor

Deadline: **December 15, 2021** | [Information and application here](#)

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[In-Residence] **Junior Fellowship**, Harvard University

Award: \$90,000 (first year)

Description: This fellowship supports exceptional ABD PhD students and first-year postdoctoral students in their research. Fellows reside in Cambridge during the academic year and work full-time on their research for a period of three years. They may graduate during this time. This fellowship comes with no other obligations for fellows except focusing on their research.

Restrictions: Applicants must be within a year of finishing their degree or not more than a year past their degree when they become fellows. Applicants should be of the highest caliber of intellectual achievement, manifesting extraordinary creativity and shaping the future direction of their chosen fields.

Application materials: letter of nomination and recommendation (*not* from candidates themselves) and emails of three additional people who will write letters of recommendation; followed up by request for samples of written work and proposal for fellowship study

Deadline: **Pending, Spring 2022 (for 2023 application cycle)** | [Information and application here](#)

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# Topical Dissertation and Research Awards

## Dissertation Research Grant, Russell Sage Foundation (RSF)

Award: up to \$10,000

Description: This grant supports dissertation projects that address questions relevant to RSF's priority areas: **Behavioral Science and Decision Making in Context; Future of Work; Race, Ethnicity and Immigration; Immigration and Immigrant Integration; and Social, Political, and Economic Inequality**. Projects should contribute to RSF's mission to improve social and living conditions in the US and demonstrate appropriate use of relevant theory, innovative data, rigorous research methods, and measures. Acceptable expenses can include applicant stipend (up to \$5,000), RAs, study participant incentives, data acquisition fees, transcription costs, laboratory costs, and travel for data collection.

Restrictions: Applicants must have successfully defended the prospectus for their dissertation. Funds cannot be used for tuition remission or the purchase of personal computers. Priority will be given to proposals that use funds to gather new quantitative or qualitative data.

Application materials: detailed project proposal and bibliography; budget, timeline, letter of recommendation, and institutional letter requested at a later date

Deadline: **March 1, 2022** (dissertation proposal defended by 7/31/ 2021) | [Information and application here](#)

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## Harry Frank Guggenheim Emerging Scholars Award, The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation

Award: \$25,000

Description: This one-year award supports the final year of dissertation writing for PhD candidates in the natural and social sciences who work on understanding the causes, manifestations, and control of **violence and aggression**. Topics might include: war, crime, terrorism, family and intimate-partner relationships, climate instability and natural resource competition, racial, ethnic and religious conflict, and political extremism and nationalism. Primacy will be given to proposals intended to reduce violence.

Restrictions: Applicants must be in the final year of their PhD. This award does not support research costs (just living costs).

Application materials: title, abstract and survey, advisor's curriculum vitae, advisor's letter, applicant's curriculum vitae and graduate transcript, project description, ethics form, other funding/facilities.

Deadline: **February 1, 2022** | [Information and application here](#)

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## Ruth P. Morgan Grant, DeGoyler Library at Southern Methodist University

Award: \$700 (one week) or \$1,400 (two weeks)

Description: This award supports scholars seeking to **use the DeGoyler Library facilities** and working on projects related to women in the Southwest and **women in politics**. For a period of one to two weeks, the award will defray the costs of travel, lodging, and research materials.

Application materials: project outline with explanation of how the DeGoyler library will enhance research, length of research time needed, curriculum vitae, two letters of reference

\*\*The DeGoyler Library houses the [Archives of Women of the Southwest](#), which documents the historical experience of women in the Southwest through (a) letters, diaries, and journals from late 19th and early 20th century women, and (b) papers of 20th and 21st century women who have influenced women's roles in society and shaped the culture, arts, business, social issues, law, and politics in the Southwest. Two private collections on women's suffrage and women reformers are also [on exhibit](#).\*\*

Deadline: **Rolling** | [Information and application here](#)

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## Dissertation Fellowship in Women's Studies, The Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation

Award: \$5,000

Description: This award supports the final year of dissertation writing for PhD candidates in the humanities and social sciences whose work addresses topics of **women and gender in interdisciplinary and original ways**. Previous fellows have explored such topics as transnational religious education for Muslim women, the complex gender dynamics of transgender management, [women's electoral success across racial and institutional contexts](#), women's sports, militarism and the education of American women, and the relationship between family commitments and women's work mobility. Funds are to be used for expenses connected with dissertation completion, such as research-related travel, data collection, and supplies

Restrictions: Applicants must be in the final year of their PhD and must have a central focus on the study of women and/or gender. They must plan to complete the PhD by summer 2023.

Application materials: application form, abstract, proposal, bibliography, timetable, personal statement, curriculum vitae, graduate transcript, two letters of recommendation

Deadline: **Pending** | [Information and application here](#)

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## Religion, Spirituality, and Democratic Renewal Fellowship, Social Science Research Council (SSRC)

Award: up to \$15,000 (doctoral candidates), up to \$18,000 (postdoctoral researchers)

Description: This grant invites proposals for social science research at the intersection of **religion, spirituality, and democracy in the United States**. Support is given over a period of up to 12 months for doctoral students who have advanced to candidacy and for postdoctoral researchers up to five years out from their PhD. Awardees participate in an interdisciplinary workshop upon completion of their research. They also are expected to contribute at least one essay to *The Immanent Frame* (SSRC's web forum on religion and secularism). Funds are typically used for travel expenses and accommodations, research equipment, RAs, costs for publications and databases.

Restrictions: Doctoral applicants must have successfully defended the prospectus for their dissertation.

Application materials: application form, research proposal and bibliography, detailed budget, one letter of reference

Deadline: **Pending** | [Information and application here](#)

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## Democratic Anxieties in the Americas Research Grant, Social Science Research Council (SSRC)

Award: \$5,000-\$10,000

Description: This grant invites proposals for social science research addressing **challenges facing democratic societies across the Americas**. It seeks to support research that (i) deepens understanding of key challenges such as democratic erosion and authoritarian drift; political inequalities, including voter suppression; political mobilization and participation of women and minorities; and corruption and the rule of law; and (ii) employs a comparative perspective or is relevant to a comparative dialogue on the sources of and solutions to democratic anxieties in the Americas.

Restrictions: Doctoral applicants must have successfully defended the prospectus for their dissertation.

Application materials: curriculum vitae, research proposal, statement of motivation, detailed budget, research schedule, IRB approval (if needed)

Deadline: **May 9, 2021** | [Information and application here](#)

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## Kenneth Sherrill Prize, Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs, American Political Science Association (APSA)

Award: \$10,000-\$15,000

Description: This award recognizes the best doctoral dissertation proposal for an empirical study of **lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender topics in political science**. After receiving the prize, awardees must report on the completion of the dissertation.

Restrictions: Applicants must have successfully defended the prospectus for their dissertation. Applications in the Spring cover dissertation prospectuses defended by July 31st of the previous year.

Application materials: curriculum vitae, abstract of dissertation proposal, dissertation proposal, letter of recommendation from committee member

Deadline: **March 1, 2022** (for a dissertation proposal defended by July 31st 2021) | [Information and application here](#)

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### **Princeton Dissertation Scholars Program**, Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice, Princeton University

Award: up to \$12,000

Description: This fellowship supports the research of pre-doctoral political science students in the dissertation phase. Research topics must relate to the Mamdouha S. Bobst Center's themes of **peace and justice**, in any subfield of political science.

Restrictions: Applicants must have completed all preliminary degree requirements. Priority is given to applicants at institutions that do not offer similar grants to their PhD students. Funds are to be used for research support only.

Application materials: curriculum vita, abstract, research proposal and budget, IRB approval (if needed), adviser and institutional support forms, advisor support letter

Deadline: **Pending for 2022** | [Information and application here](#)

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### **[In-Residence] Pre-Doctoral Fellowship**, Freeman Spogli Institute: Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law, Stanford

Award: stipend comparable to Stanford Graduate Fellowship and non-matriculated student tuition

Description: This fellowship supports pre-doctoral students at the write-up stage working in any of four areas: **democracy, development, evaluating the efficacy of democracy promotion, and the rule of law**. Fellows spend the academic year at Stanford University completing their projects, participating in seminars, and interacting with each other and the resident faculty and research staff. Fellows have access to office space as well as Stanford libraries.

\*\*This is also a postdoctoral fellowship\*\*

Application materials: application form, letter of intent, curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation, statement of proposed research, undergraduate and graduate transcripts

Deadline: **December 17, 2021** | [Information and application here](#)

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## Religion and Politics Small Grant, American Political Science Association (APSA)

Award: up to \$2,500

Description: This award is given for proposals addressing any topic of theoretical, empirical, and practical significance for the study of **religion and politics**.

Restrictions: Applicants must be members of the Religion & Politics APSA section (free to graduate students). Preference will be given to graduate students, recent PhDs, and untenured faculty.

Application materials: proposal describing the scope of the project, importance, and execution

Deadline: **Pending for 2022** | [Information for last \(2021\) cycle](#)

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## Diversity Awards

### Fund for Latino Scholarship, Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs, American Political Science Association (APSA)

Award: \$500-\$1,000

Description: This grant can (a) provide professional opportunities and financial assistance to Latino/a graduate students in political science programs and (b) support research projects on Latino/a politics in the United States. The grant is usually used as a travel grant (to attend APSA Annual Meeting) or as a research grant.

Restrictions: **Latino/a students** participating in discipline-related programs and activities, or individuals conducting research on Latino politics.

Application materials: application form

Deadline: **June 15, 2022 (not open yet)** | [Information and application here](#)

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### Spring Diversity Fellowship Program (DFP), American Political Science Association (APSA)

Award: \$2,000

Description: The Spring Diversity Fellowship is awarded to 1st and 2nd year political science graduate students in the pre-dissertation stage from underrepresented backgrounds.

Restrictions: Only apply for the Spring fellowship; the Fall fellowship is for prospective PhD students. Applicants must be 1st or 2nd year PhD students and members of a **historically underrepresented group**: African Americans, Asian Pacific Americans, Latinos/as, Native Americans, MENA descent.

Application materials: application form, enrollment verification, transcripts, three letters of recommendation

\*\*A [travel grant](#) is also available to Diversity Fellows or alumni\*\*

Deadline: **Opens February 2022** | [Information and application here](#)

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### American Dissertation Fellowship, American Association of University Women (AAAU)

Award: \$20,000

Description: This award offsets female scholars' living expenses while they complete the final year of dissertation writing. Expenses might include educational costs, living costs, child care, and travel to professional meetings, conferences, or seminars (not more than 10% of award).

Restrictions: Applicants who identify as **women** in any field of study, especially with active commitment to helping women and girls through their profession and/or research, who are in the last year of the PhD. Applicants who held a dissertation completion fellowship or grant in the year prior are not eligible to apply. Funds cannot be used for equipment, RAs, publication costs, or tuition.

Application materials: proposal, three letters of recommendation, graduate work, dissertation prospectus certification form, institutional approval form

Deadline: **November 1 (opens August 1)** | [Information and application here](#)

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### Ford Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Ford Foundation

Award: \$28,000 stipend

Description: The Ford Foundation seeks to increase the **diversity** of university faculties and the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of their students. The dissertation fellowship provides one year of support to PhD students working to complete their dissertation, as well as access to Ford Fellow Regional Liaisons and other networking opportunities.

Restrictions: Applicants should demonstrate superior academic achievement, be committed to a career in teaching and research at the college level, show promise of future achievement as scholars and teachers, and be well-prepared to use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students. In addition, personal engagement with

**underrepresented communities** in the academy and/or membership in underrepresented communities is favored by the selection committee.

Application materials: curriculum vitae, personal statement, abstract of dissertation, proposed timeline for dissertation completion, annotated bibliography, undergraduate and graduate transcripts, doctoral status verification, three to five letters of recommendation

Deadline: **December 9, 2021** (main application materials), **January 6, 2022** (transcripts, letters of recommendation) | [Information and application here](#)

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## Other Awards

### **APSA Travel and Accessibility Grant**, American Political Science Association (APSA)

Award: as needed (Travel Grant), up to \$190 (Accessibility Grant)

Description: This award defrays the costs of **attending the APSA Annual Meeting or Teaching and Learning Conference** either virtually (Accessibility Grant) or in-person (Travel Grant). Travel Grants can cover ticket and cab fare, personal mileage, hotels, and meals. Accessibility Grants can cover childcare or elderly care, Wi-Fi or internet connection fees, relevant hardware or software, auxiliary aids and services for individuals with hearing or vision disability, and meals.

Restrictions: Applicants must maintain their APSA membership, reside more than 30 miles from the conference location, and submit all itemized receipts for expenses. Travel Grants cannot be used for business/first-class tickets, rental cars, gasoline, alcohol, registration or APSA membership dues.

Application materials: application form, letter of intent, curriculum vitae, three letters of recommendation, statement of proposed research, undergraduate and graduate transcripts

Deadline: **Pending** | [Information and application here](#)

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### **Oskar Morgenstern Fellowship**, Mercatus Center, George Mason University

Award: \$7,000

Description: This one-year fellowship is awarded to graduate students with training in **quantitative methods** who are attending PhD programs in a variety of fields and are interested in **political economy**. Fellows spend two weekends and half a week during the academic year participating in colloquia on the Austrian, Virginia, and Bloomington schools of political economy. The award includes a stipend, travel and lodging to attend the colloquia, and eligibility to apply for conference and research support.

Restrictions: Applicants must have training in quantitative methods (such as advanced statistics, regression analysis, experimental economics, mathematical modeling, and agent-based modeling) and have a research or teaching interest that would benefit from a greater understanding of key writings in political economy.

Application materials: cover letter, curriculum vitae, short questions

Deadline: **March 15, 2022** | [Information and application here](#)