

**THE CUNY GRADUATE CENTER DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**  
for the 2011-2012 Academic Year – Applications Due **Monday, February 7, 2011,**  
**no later than 12:00 pm**

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Students must be registered or on an approved leave of absence during the 2010-2011 academic year to be eligible to apply. For your application to be considered, you must also be officially advanced to candidacy (level III) with a completed “Advancement to Candidacy for the Doctoral Degree” form on file in the Registrar’s Office before February 17, 2011. (Level II may apply for the February 7, 2011 deadline, but they must be level III before February 17, 2011.) Students who have received a dissertation fellowship award of \$10,000 or more from the Graduate Center previously are not eligible.

A student holding a five-year fellowship from the Graduate Center (e.g., Enhanced Chancellor’s Fellowship, MAGNET Fellowship, Gilleece Fellowship, or CUNY Science Scholarship) may not hold a dissertation fellowship concurrently with the five-year award. A student with a five-year award may apply, but if selected for a dissertation fellowship he/she will have to choose between the five-year fellowship funding and the dissertation fellowship funding. (The tuition component of the five-year award will remain intact.)

A student holding a Graduate Center fellowship that is not part of a five-year award (a freestanding Graduate Assistantship A, B, or C) may apply for the dissertation fellowships but, if offered an award, the total funding (Graduate Assistant salary plus Dissertation Fellowship stipend) may not exceed \$30,000 (subject to approval). If the combined amount exceeds \$30,000 the student will have to choose between the dissertation fellowship and the graduate assistantship.

***Please note:*** GC Dissertation Fellowships require no service and are paid through Financial Aid stipends. The dissertation fellowships do not carry eligibility for the NYSHIP health insurance or CUNY tuition remission. Some fellowships provide in-state tuition. (See the award descriptions for details.)

All applicants will automatically be considered for all relevant dissertation awards, with the exception of those listed on the checklist of special focus awards (second page of application). Students wishing to apply for those special focus awards that are reviewed by particular Centers and Institutes should check off the awards for which they are eligible.

Dissertation Fellowships are intended for students who expect to complete the dissertation during 2011-2012 award year; the applicant’s likelihood of completing the dissertation during this period may be taken into consideration in the selection process. Fellowship recipients are required to be registered during the award year. Students who qualify for the Ph.D. in time for an October 2011 degree are not eligible to receive the fellowship. Students who complete the dissertation, oral defense, and revisions during the Fall 2011 semester are eligible for one-half of the award.

**DESCRIPTION OF FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

*All fellowships and grants are contingent on the availability of funds. The Graduate Center reserves the right not to offer specific fellowships, the right to reduce the number of fellowships offered in any given category, the right to reduce the amounts awarded, and the right to alter benefits granted in conjunction with specific awards.*

### ***Dissertation Fellowships***

**The B. Altman Foundation Dissertation Fellowship** is for a dissertation-level student from any program. Award amount: \$18,000 plus in-state tuition.

**Randolph L. Braham Dissertation Award**, an award for dissertation-level students whose doctoral research is in the area of Jewish, East European politics and government, or Holocaust-related studies, was established by Distinguished Professor Emeritus in Political Science Randolph L. Braham, who directs the Rosenthal Institute for Holocaust Studies. Award amount: \$5,000 to \$10,000.

**Ralph Bunche Dissertation Fellowship**, established in honor of the late Nobel Laureate by the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies, is for a social science doctoral candidate working on areas that concerned Ralph Bunche, especially the United Nations and multilateralism, international politics, African and Middle Eastern affairs, U.S. foreign policy, race relations, and human rights. Award amount: \$12,000.

**Mario Capelloni Dissertation Fellowship**, established by the late Nelly Gabel Capelloni, with the help of estate executor Myron Glucksman, in honor of her husband, is for students of high academic merit who show exceptional promise in their field of study. Award amount: \$20,000 plus in-state tuition.

**Carell Dissertation Fellowship** was established by Monroe Carell, Jr. for students of high academic merit who plan to pursue careers with limited earnings expectations. Award amount: \$20,000 plus in-state tuition.

**Lane Cooper Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities** is co-sponsored by the CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences. The fellowship is for a student in the humanities who shows promise as a scholar and teacher. Award amount \$17,000.

**European Union Studies Center Dissertation Fellowship** for dissertations in the Social Sciences on topics relating to the European Union and its member countries or candidates for membership, in the context of their relationships with the European Union. Award amount: \$5,000 to \$10,000.

**Frances Degen Horowitz Dissertation Fellowship** is named in honor of Dr. Horowitz, President Emerita and Professor of Developmental Psychology. Award amount: \$15,000.

**The Leon Levy Center for Biography Dissertation Fellowship** is available to students whose dissertations take a biographical approach to their subject matter. The Center encourages the connection between university-based and independent biographers working in print, visual arts, and other media. Fellows are required to attend public programs and a seminar throughout the academic year. Award amount: \$22,000.

**MAGNET Dissertation Fellowships** are established through the Office of Educational

Opportunity and Diversity Programs to aid outstanding African-American and Latino/a doctoral students (citizens or permanent residents) in completing the dissertation. Award amount: \$20,000 plus in-state tuition.

**Mellon Dissertation Fellowship** is supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and sponsored by the Center for the Humanities, which directs the selection process. The theme for the 2010-11 Fellowship is “Emotion”. Award amount: \$22,000 *Application requires additional statement of applicability.*

**Helaine Newstead Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities**, named in memory of our Professor of English and Comparative Literature. Award amount: \$18,000 plus in-state tuition.

**Athena Pollis Fellowship in Human Rights** was established by Professor Adamantia Pollis for an outstanding student whose dissertation involves international, comparative, or theoretical human rights issues or who wishes to intern at a human rights NGO with preference for applicants of color or from other countries. Award amount: \$10,000.

**Harold M. Proshansky Dissertation Fellowship**, named for the second president of The Graduate Center, who pioneered the study of Environmental Psychology, is for a student whose dissertation involves the human condition in urban settings, focusing on New York City. Award amount: \$18,000 plus in-state tuition. *Application requires additional statement of applicability.*

**Mina Rees Dissertation Fellowship in the Sciences**, named for our first Graduate Center President and Professor of Mathematics. Award amount: \$18,000 plus in-state tuition.

**The Martin E. Segal Dissertation Fellowship** will be awarded to a student currently writing a dissertation on a New York City-based subject. The fellowship honors Martin E. Segal’s passionate, life-long commitment to both The Graduate Center and the city of New York. Preference will be given to dissertations that explore New York’s cultural life, its theatre, its music, its arts and its letters, but any New York-focused dissertation will be considered. A candidate’s prospectus must have been approved. Award amount: \$18,000 plus in-state tuition.

**Sponsored Dissertation Fellowship** is for a student from any program. Award amount: \$18,000 plus in-state tuition.

### *Dissertation and Travel Awards*

**Doctoral Students’ Council Dissertation Fellowship**, established by the DSC, will offer one fellowship to a student in the Humanities, one to a student in the Sciences, and one to a student in the Social Sciences, and one Community Fellowship for a student conducting interdisciplinary research or activities that cross program boundaries. Award amount: \$5,000.

**Ford Foundation Award** is to aid a student whose dissertation research deals with issues of gender, race, identity, sexuality, or higher education policy. Preference will be given to traditionally underrepresented students in the academy. The award covers expenses such as travel and research materials. Award amount: \$2,000. *Requires a brief itemized budget.*

**William Randolph Hearst Dissertation Year Award** is to aid a student who is African-American or Latino/a (citizen or permanent resident) in completing the dissertation. Award amount: \$8,000 plus tuition.

**Frances Degen Horowitz Travel Award**, named in honor of the President Emerita of The Graduate Center and Professor of Developmental Psychology, is for travel expenses related to dissertation research. Award amount: \$2,000.

**Alexander C. Naclerio Award** is to aid a student pursuing dissertation research in housing and urban development. Award amount: \$2,000.

**Rose Kfar Rose Dissertation Award** is named for the donor, a Holocaust survivor who was a graduate of the Chemistry program and established this award for an outstanding Chemistry student to be selected by the program. Award amount: \$5,000.

**Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. Dissertation Proposal Award**, named for the noted historian and professor emeritus, recognizes an outstanding proposal for research into historical aspects of a topic involving America's past, present, or future. Award amount: \$2,000.

**Martin M. Spiaggia Dissertation Award in Arts & Humanities** is named in honor of the donor and is for students of high academic merit. Award amount: \$5,000.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

**The completed application must be submitted no later than 12:00 pm on Monday, February 7, 2011.**

You must submit to Room 8113 (Provost's Office) the original and 5 copies of the application. If you are applying for any of the additional awards listed on the second page of the application, please submit one extra copy of your application for each award.

In addition to these multiple copies, you must submit one letter of recommendation in an envelope signed/sealed by your adviser. Applications will **not** be accepted without the letter of recommendation. You should notify your adviser of this deadline requirement well before the February 7, 2011 deadline.

Also submit a PDF copy of your application (all parts except for the letter of reference) to [dissertationgrants@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:dissertationgrants@gc.cuny.edu).

Each copy of the application must include the following:

- 1. Cover sheet and the checklist of special focus awards**
- 2. Proposal**
  - **150 word abstract**
  - **9 page project description** including a discussion of the background, relevant literature, methodology, data, projected results, and a time-line indicating expected progress.
  - **1 page selected bibliography**

The text describing the dissertation project should be double-spaced using a 12-point font with numbered pages and a 1-inch margin. The abstract and bibliography can be single-spaced. Students are advised to keep in mind that the review committees will be composed of faculty from various disciplines. Proposals should be jargon-free and clearly written.

- 3. Two page *curriculum vitae*.**
- 4. Current Graduate Center transcript.** (Students may submit the unofficial student copy that can be printed from banner.)

The application materials should be assembled in the following order:

- a. Application cover sheet
- b. Checklist for special focus awards, if applicable
- c. 10-page proposal (including abstract and selected bibliography)
- d. 2-page CV
- e. Graduate Center Transcript (unofficial student copy is sufficient)
- f. 1 letter of reference (in sealed/signed envelope)

If you have questions, please contact Rachel Sponzo at [rsponzo@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:rsponzo@gc.cuny.edu), or 212-817-7282.

## DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

Due Date: Monday, February 7, 2011, no later than 12:00pm

Submit hard copies to Room 8113 (Provost's Office) **and** email a .pdf copy to [dissertationgrants@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:dissertationgrants@gc.cuny.edu)

**Name:**

**Banner ID number:**

**Email address (please use GC email address):**

**Phone number:**

**Doctoral Program:  
or Psychology Subprogram**

**Date of Advancement To Candidacy:**

**Title of Proposal:**

**Names of Dissertation Committee members:**

**Name of Dissertation Adviser who will write a letter of recommendation:**

**Please list any other Graduate Center Fellowship(s) that you expect to hold during the 2011-12 Academic Year:**

***Applicants will automatically be considered for all general awards.***

*Please check below if you wish to apply for any of the following fellowships or awards that either have a specialized focus, or are decided by panels other than those convened by the Provost's Office. Please read the descriptions to be sure your dissertation topic is applicable.*

\_\_\_ **Randolph L. Braham Dissertation Award** for research in the area of Jewish, East European politics and government, or Holocaust-related studies.

\_\_\_ **Ralph Bunche Dissertation Fellowship** for a social science doctoral candidate working in the areas of international politics, African and Middle Eastern affairs, U.S. foreign policy, race relations, and human rights.

\_\_\_ **Lane Cooper Dissertation Fellowship** for students in the Humanities.

\_\_\_ **European Union Studies Center Dissertation Fellowship** for dissertations in the Social Sciences on topics relating to the European Union and its member countries or candidates for membership, in the context of their relationships with the European Union.

\_\_\_ **The Leon Levy Center for Biography Dissertation Fellowship** for students whose dissertations take a biographical approach to their subject matter.

\_\_\_ **MAGNET Dissertation Fellowship** for outstanding African-American and Latino/a doctoral students (citizens or permanent residents).

\_\_\_ **Center for Humanities Mellon Dissertation Fellowship** based on a yearly theme, please see <http://centerforthehumanitiesgc.org> for details.

\_\_\_ **Harold M. Proshansky Dissertation Fellowship** for a student whose dissertation involves the human condition in urban settings, focusing on New York City.

\_\_\_ **Athena Pollis Fellowship in Human Rights** for a student whose dissertation involves international, comparative, or theoretical human rights issues.

\_\_\_ **The Martin E. Segal Dissertation Fellowship** for a student currently writing a dissertation on a New York City-based subject. Preference will be given to dissertations that explore New York's cultural life, its theatre, its music, its arts and its letters, but any New York-focused dissertation will be considered.

\_\_\_ **Ford Foundation Award** to aid a student whose dissertation research deals with issues of gender, race, identity, sexuality, or higher education policy. Preference will be given to traditionally underrepresented students in the academy. The award covers expenses such as travel and research materials. Please submit a brief budget.

\_\_\_ **Frances Degen Horowitz Travel Award** for travel expenses related to dissertation research.

\_\_\_ **Alexander C. Naclerio Award** to aid a student pursuing dissertation research in housing and urban development.

### **Checklist of Materials Submitted:**

**Use a single clamp/paper clip to secure each copy, do not staple.**

Original and 5 copies, plus additional copies for any special focus awards. Assembled in the following order:

- Application cover sheet
- Checklist for special focus awards, if applicable
- 10-page proposal (including abstract and selected bibliography)
- 2-page CV
- Graduate Center Transcript (unofficial student copy is sufficient)

Original copy only:

- 1 letter of reference (in sealed/signed envelope) from your adviser

If you have questions, please contact Rachel Sponzo at [rsponzo@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:rsponzo@gc.cuny.edu), or 212-817-7282.



## 2011-2012 CUNY Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowships and Awards

**Frequently Asked Questions and Answers**

**Q: I will still be a level II student on the February 7, 2011 application deadline, but I expect to be level III before February 17, 2011. May I submit an application on February 7, 2011?**

A: Yes, you may apply, but if you do not move to level III before February 17, 2011, your application will not be considered.

**Q: May I apply again next year if for some reason I do not move to level III by the February 17, 2011 deadline?**

A: Yes.

**Q: May I apply again next year if I apply and do not win an award this year?**

A: Yes, as long as you are registered full time or on an official leave of absence when you apply next time.

**Q: I heard that in the past you required two letters of recommendation. Is it true that in this year's competition you require only one letter and it must be from my adviser?**

A: Yes.

**Q: Do I need to submit multiple copies of the letter of recommendation from my adviser?**

A: No, only the original letter in a signed/sealed envelope. Please remember that no application will be accepted without the letter.

**Q: What if my adviser is on leave or out of the country and cannot submit a letter? May I ask another member of my committee to write a letter of reference for me?**

A: Yes. In this situation, your adviser must send an email to Rachel Sponzo ([RSponzo@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:RSponzo@gc.cuny.edu)) and explain s/he is not able to provide a letter of reference for you and state who will write the letter instead.

**Q: How many copies of my application should I submit?**

A: You must submit 6 hard copies of your application (original, plus 5 copies). Plus, an additional copy for each of the special focus awards you apply for. You must also submit a PDF copy of your application to [dissertationgrants@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:dissertationgrants@gc.cuny.edu).

**Q: Can I submit by email? What if I am not in New York City?**

A: The PDF copy of your application should be emailed to [dissertationgrants@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:dissertationgrants@gc.cuny.edu). But,

**you must also submit hard copies of the application**, and students must submit their letter of recommendation in a signed/sealed envelope along with the hard copies.

If you are not in New York City you can either mail the materials (well in advance of the February 7 deadline) to Rachel Sponzo, Office of the Associate Provost, Room 8113, CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10016. Alternately, you may also designate someone to submit materials on your behalf.

**Q: If I win a dissertation fellowship from an external agency, may I also hold a GC dissertation fellowship or award?**

A: Yes.

**Q: May I serve as an adjunct at CUNY while holding a GC Dissertation Fellowship?**

A: Yes.

**Q: If I am a fourth year Enhanced Chancellor's Fellow and expect to be a CUNY Writing Fellow (CWF) in 2011-2012, may I apply for a Dissertation Fellowship?**

A: You may apply and if you win, you will have to select between the CWF and the Dissertation Fellowship and accept one. **You may not defer either until 2012-2013.** If you accept the CWF, you may apply again for a Dissertation Fellowship or Award. If you accept the Dissertation Fellowship, you will forfeit the CWF and may not apply for a CWF again.

**Q: Do Dissertation Fellowships and Awards provide eligibility for NYSHIP health insurance?**

A: No.

**Q: Do Dissertation Fellowships and Awards provide tuition?**

A: Some Dissertation Fellowships include tuition, some do not. Please see the award descriptions for details.

**Q: What Dissertation Fellowships will I be considered for if I do not check off any of the awards on page 2 of the application?**

A: There are a number of awards that are available to students in all disciplines and any dissertation topic. All students will be considered for these general focus awards decided by panels convened by the Provost's Office. The only awards that students need to specify that they are applying for are awards that have a *highly* specialized focus, or are reviewed by separate centers or institutes.

**Q: How many Dissertation Fellowships and Awards do you expect to make for 2011-2012?**

A: Due to uncertainties about further budget cuts, we will not know this until sometime in Spring 2011.

**Q: What should I include in my 150 abstract?**

A: A concise summary of your 9 page proposal. You may wish to ask your adviser or research how to write a grant abstract.

**Q: May I list items on my two page bibliography I have not cited in my proposal?**

A: You should start by listing all the references in your proposal. After that, if space allows you may list other relevant references that inform your proposal.

**Q: What should I include in my 2 page CV? Should I include jobs that have no bearing on my academic career?**

A: Your CV should include your name, the educational institutions you have attended since high school, starting with the most current (PhD Program in X, CUNY, 20XX-present), and any degrees you have received since highschool. Include employment you consider relevant to your degree. You may wish to include a separate section on teaching experience and/or research experience. You should list paper and poster presentations at conferences or workshops. If you have publications, include them. If you have organized a conference or a workshop or a session at professional conference, list them. If you have given recitals or performances, or helped curate an exhibit, you should include those. You may wish to show your CV to your advisor or EO.

**Q: Who will evaluate my proposal?**

A: A faculty selection committee with 3-4 members will review each proposal. Proposals are grouped by disciplinary cluster and there is one faculty member from each discipline represented. Review panels are asked to rank their top applicants and awards are made on the basis of these panel rankings. Some specialized awards are also reviewed and decided by specific centers and institutes.

**Q: When will I be notified if I have won a fellowship?**

A: Notification of awards will take place in the spring semester, usually by mid-April.

**Q: What other general criteria are important?**

A: Some of the standard criteria include:

6. A clearly written proposal that does not have spelling, grammatical or formatting errors, that is not overburdened with jargon that readers beyond the discipline of the applicant will not understand;
7. Statement of problem or project description;
8. Significance and originality of the topic; the overall argument of the project; why the project matters;
9. Feasibility of completing the proposed project within the given timeframe;
10. Methodology and the use of evidence; critical approach; critique of relevant literature.

**Q: What are some other resources I can use while working on my proposal?**

A: Below is a list of some helpful links. A web search will also point you to many tutorials and

information on grant and proposal writing.

[http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/grant\\_proposals.html](http://www.unc.edu/depts/wcweb/handouts/grant_proposals.html)

<http://iis.berkeley.edu/DissPropWorkshop/process/>

<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2004/nsf04016/start.htm>

<http://www.ssrc.org/publications/view/7A9CB4F4-815F-DE11-BD80-001CC477EC70>

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Rachel Sponzo in the Office of the Associate Provost at [rsponzo@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:rsponzo@gc.cuny.edu) or 212-817-7282.