



Webinar on Dissertation Research Funding Opportunities

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Monday, September 12, 2011

PLEASE OPEN YOUR BROWSER TO:

<http://education.msu.edu/irtl/grad>

THIS PRESENTATION WILL BE POSTED ONLINE FOR DOWNLOAD

Today

- ✓ know which funding opportunities are relevant to your dissertation research;
- ✓ prepare for important funding deadlines this fall; and
- ✓ understand, plan for, and successfully navigate the funding process.

Why?

- ✓ Focus on research and/or writing
- ✓ Advance knowledge in your field
- ✓ National recognition and prestige
- ✓ Lifetime professional network
- ✓ Professional development opportunity
- ✓ Shows ability to win grants for academic job applications

Why Not?

You have already done the bulk of the work in your dissertation proposal. Turning it into a competitive grant proposal takes:



A little
planning



An exciting
idea



A support
network

Where To Find Funding



Review list of opportunities on IRTL website and emails



Ask your advisor and other faculty in your department and/or field of study about different opportunities

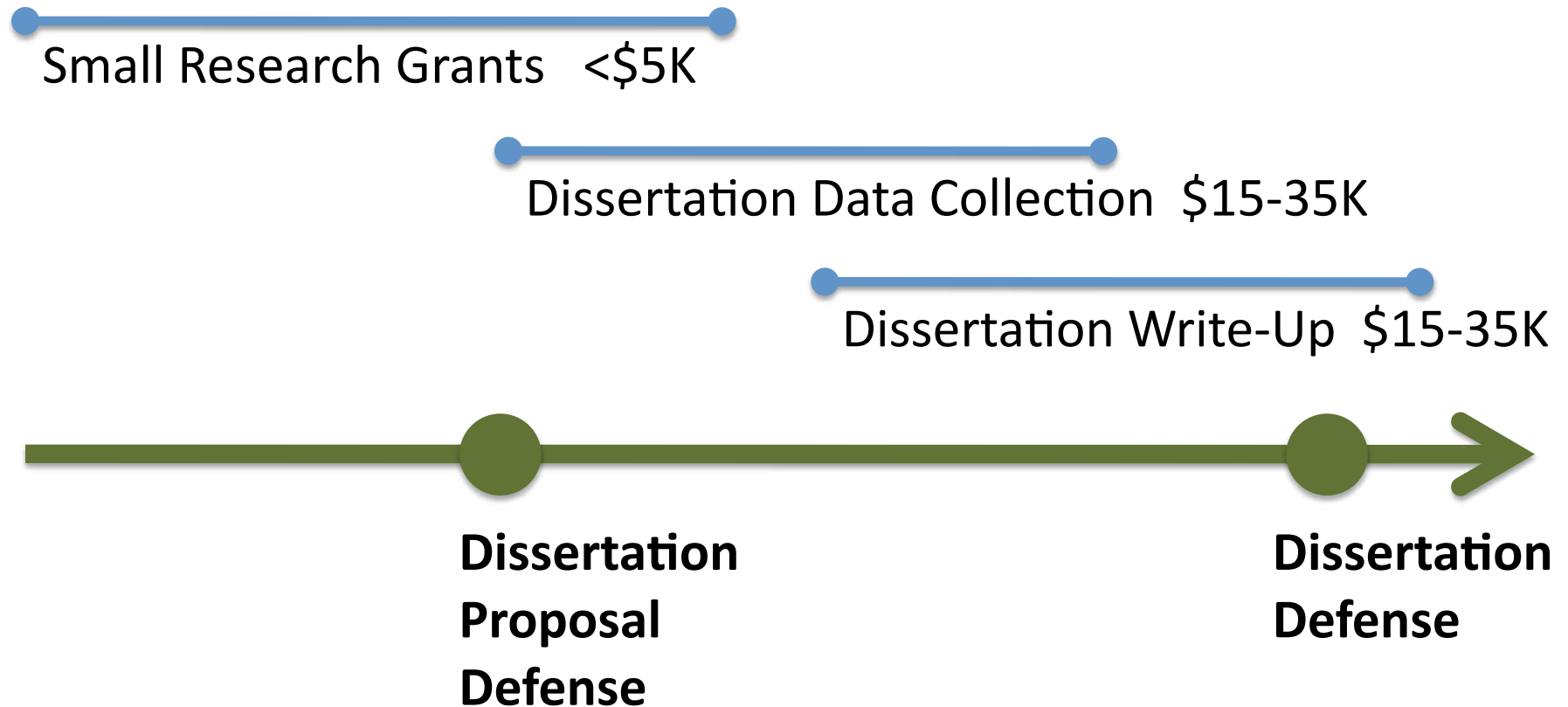


Search the Community of Science database and create a personalized funding alert



Look for announcements from professional organizations in your field (e.g., AERA, ASHE)

Three Kinds of Grants



FALL 2011

Small Research Grants

Award	Topic(s)	Deadline(s)
Graduate School Research Enhancement	any topic	Anytime
Jeanne S. Chall Research Fellowship	reading	November
National Academic Advising Association	academic advising	November
Doris Duke Fellowships	child abuse and neglect prevention	December

SPRING 2012

Small Research Grants

Award	Topic(s)	Deadline(s)
SSRC Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship	humanities and social sciences	January
African/Asia FLAS awards	international	January
ISP Travel Awards	international	February
Foundation for the Scientific Study of Sexuality	sexuality	February, June
National Academic Advising Association	academic advising	March
Byron Hanke Fellowship for Graduate Research on Community Associations	community associations	May
Paul P. Fidler Research Grant	first-year experience in higher education	July

FALL 2011

Dissertation Data Collection

Award	Topic(s)	Deadline(s)
AERA Dissertation Grant	NCES and NSF datasets	September
SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants – NSF	items not normally available through the student's university	September, October
Fulbright-Hays DDRA	Non-Western European international research	October CANCELLED FOR 2011
SSRC International Dissertation Fellowship	non-U.S. cultures and societies	November
Wenner-Gren Foundation	anthropological field work	November
AERA Minority Dissertation Fellowship	education	December

SPRING 2012

Dissertation Data Collection

Award	Topic(s)	Deadline(s)
AERA Dissertation Grant	NCES and NSF datasets	January, March
AIR Dissertation Grants	postsecondary education, NCES and NSF datasets	January
SBE Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grants – NSF	items not normally available through the student's university	January, February, August
Esther Katz Rosen Graduate Student Fellowships	gifted and talented children and adolescents	March
Wenner-Gren Foundation	anthropological fieldwork	May

FALL 2011

Dissertation Write-Up

Award	Topic(s)	Deadline(s)
Spencer Foundation	education	October
AAUW American Fellowship	gender issues, STEM	November
Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships	humanities and social sciences	November
Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships	ethical or religious values	November
Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowships	any topic, promote diversity in faculty	November
AAUW International Fellowships	gender issues, STEM	December

SPRING 2012

Dissertation Write-Up

Award	Topic(s)	Deadline(s)
MSU Graduate School Dissertation Completion	any topic	nominated by college, process begins late fall
Guggenheim Foundation	reducing violence, aggression, dominance	February
Jack Kent Cooke Dissertation Fellowship	high-achieving, low-income students	February



Community of Science

- Website: <http://www.cos.com>
- Start narrow (e.g., Mathematics Education, Educational Testing or Measurement, etc.)
- Then do a broad search (e.g., Education)
- Keep a list of keywords and agencies
- Register and setup a COS Funding Alert



List of Selected Opportunities

- Website: <http://education.msu.edu/irtl/grad>
- IRTL monthly funding alert. To subscribe simply email Chris Glass at crglass@msu.edu with the word “subscribe” in the subject line.



Four Questions

- **How much money?**
Does the funding amount meet my needs?
- **Am I eligible?**
Am I ready and do I meet the requirements?
- **Is there time?**
Do I have time to prepare a competitive proposal?
- **Is there a fit?**
Do my research interests map to the sponsor's interests?

Read titles and abstracts of what the agency has funded in the past.





Spencer 2011-12

- “A New Framework for School Belonging: The Importance of ‘Fitting In’ and ‘Standing Out’”
- “Advanced New Literacies and Knowledge Synthesis on the Web”
- “How Does School Accountability Affect Teachers?”
- “Latina Teachers in Los Angeles: Navigating Race/Ethnic and Class Boundaries in Multiracial Elementary Schools”



AERA 2011-12

- “An Ecological Approach to Assessing School Climate and Its Relationship to Academic Processes and Outcomes” (SADC dataset)
- “Examining the Causal Effects of Instruction and Delivery in Postsecondary Remedial and Developmental Courses: Evidence from the Tennessee Developmental Course Redesign Initiative” (IPEDS dataset)
- “Out of the Classroom and into the Voting Booth? Analyzing the Effects of Education on Political Participation” (NAEP, NAAL, NELS dataset)



AAUW 2011-12

- “Gender and Higher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa”
- “Effectiveness of Peer-Led Eating Disorder Prevention in High School Girls: The Body Image Project”
- “Racial/Ethnic Disparities in Smoking among African American Young-Adult Women”
- “A Study of the Narratives of College Women Who Have Experienced Sexual Transgressions”



AIR 2011-12

- “Balancing Work and Study: Evaluating the Effects of Community College Students’ Term-time Employment and Credential Type”
- “Does Course Delivery Format Matter? Evaluating the Impacts of Online Learning on Student Success in a State Community College System ”



“A Good Proposal”

The National Science Foundation (NSF) defines a good proposal as “a good idea, well expressed, with a clear indication of methods for pursuing the idea, evaluating the findings, making them known to all who need to know, and indicating the broader impacts of the activity.”

“There is no amount of grantsmanship that will turn a bad idea into a good one, but there are many ways to disguise a good one.”

William Raub
former Deputy Director, NIH



NIH Tips For Applicants



Write For Busy People

Remember your proposal will be reviewed by extraordinarily busy people with full-time commitments to their jobs, communities, and families. Make sure your proposal includes absolutely everything they need to evaluate your research project!



Project Summary

Title Make it clear, accurate, and succinct. This is the first thing the reviewers will see. Make a good impression.

Abstract Probably the most important part of the grant proposal. It should be absolutely clear to any reviewer reading it, regardless of his/her specific expertise. Write this last.

Support Materials

Biographical Narrative

Share motivations, experiences, and future goals. Write an essay no one else could have written.

Budget

Be reasonable and accurate. Meet the sponsor's requirements.

Letters of Recommendation

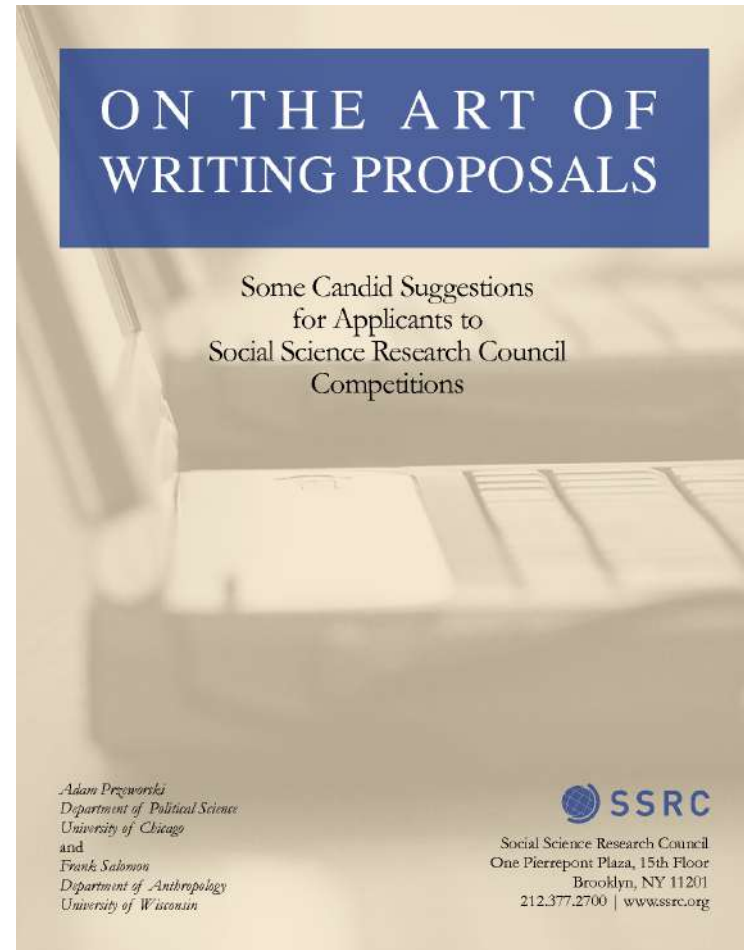
Give concrete examples.
Contextualize your research and scholarly potential.

Project Description

- The “Hook”** Capture the reviewer’s attention. It will determine whether the reviewer reads your proposal with interest or skims it.
- Literature Review** Be selective and critical, not exhaustive. Avoid jargon.
- Research Plan** Show your project is well-planned and feasible and you are the one to do it.
- References** There’s usually a limit on # of references.

Tips on Writing A Competitive Proposal

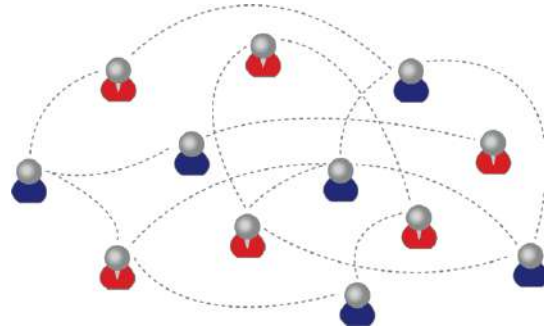
- Read “The Art of Writing Proposals”
- Review writing and budget tips on the IRTL [website](#)
- Study successful proposals
- Create a support network



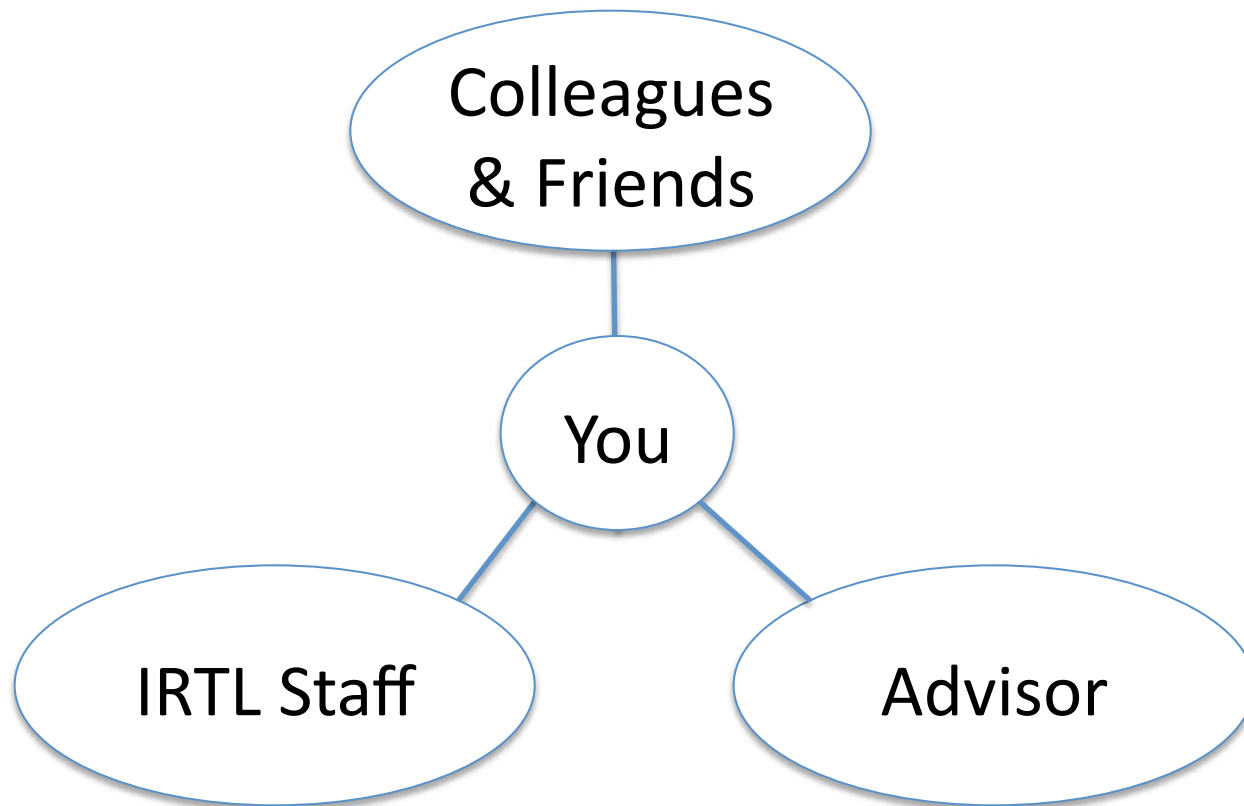
Study Successful Proposals

IRTL has samples of successful applications, professional narratives, and budgets for different funding opportunities.

AERA GRANTS PROGRAM DISSERTATION GRANT PROPOSAL COVER PAGE	
TITLE OF DISSERTATION: Making Sense of the Links: From Government Policy to Student Achievement	
APPLICANT: Marjorie R. Wallace	AGENCY: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NCES, DATA SET USED: <input type="checkbox"/> NSF, DATA SET USED:
APPLICANT'S ADDRESS: Michigan State University Institute for Research on Teaching and Learning 513 Erickson Hall East Lansing, MI 48824-1034	TELEPHONE: 517-432-2804
	EMAIL ADDRESS: wallacem@msu.edu
	AMOUNT REQUESTED: \$20,000
CHECKLIST OF REQUIRED MATERIALS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PROPOSAL (4 PAGES MAXIMUM) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUDGET <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CURRICULUM VITAE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LETTER FROM FACULTY ADVISOR	DATES OF PROJECT: 4/1/02-3/31/04
	For our records, please complete the following (OPTIONAL): What is your race/ethnicity? (Choose one or more) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native
Is this proposal being submitted to another funding agency or institution? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO If YES, please specify: AERA/OERI, Spencer	Are you an American citizen? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes, native born or naturalized citizen



Create Support Network



Carefully Review Submission Checklist



What The Reviewer Fills Out

AIR 2011 Dissertation Grants Proposal Guidelines

Dissertation Grant Rating Rubric

Section 1: Qualifying Criteria

Reviewers use the criteria below to rate proposals. Answers of “No” in this section may disqualify the application. Items that are “unclear or missing” must be resolved by AIR staff prior to funding but will not stop an application from being fully reviewed and considered.

Overall, demonstrates a reasonable and defensible research methodology	Yes		No
Uses required dataset(s) or addresses NPEC focus: (check all that apply)	NCES dataset(s) NSF and/or dataset(s) or Addresses the NPEC focus on <i>Beyond Graduation Rates</i>		No: Does not address necessary datasets or focus area
The selected data and variables are appropriate for the proposed research	Yes	Unclear/Missing	No
Proposes a “doable” project within a one-year timeline	Yes	Unclear/Missing	No
Proposes an acceptable plan for disseminating results	Yes	Unclear/Missing	No

Any Questions?

Thanks!

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