

Preparing for External Research/Dissertation Funding Timeline

Years 1-2

- Work on and develop your research topic and ideas.

Years 2-3

- Coming to an end in courses and have narrowed down topics to one or two potential dissertation ideas.
- 1-2 years from dissertation proposal.
- Begin exploring funding options.
- Consider what you might need funding for (e.g., data collection) and what point in the dissertation process you will need that funding.

Years 3-5

- Most dissertation funding proposal due dates are approximately 6 months to 1 year prior to dispersion of funds.
- Therefore, depending on what you want funded you may need to send out a proposal up to a year or more before you even need the funding.
- Work on and submit proposals approximate 6 months prior to the due date. Prioritize good quality. Get advisor on board.
- For international research projects, begin working on funding proposals 6 months to a year prior to the due date (e.g, affiliation letters, courses, language evaluations).
- Note: This time period varies greatly depending on the grant and its requirements.

Note: Special Considerations

- *International Research*: Preparing proposals for international research funding is likely to take more time due to the requirements, begin early.
- *Working students*: Students who work fulltime should be aware that many of the larger are only for *fulltime students*. Be sure to explore whether or not this is a requirement when searching for grants.
- *International Students*: Some grants are only available to U.S. citizens and permanent residents (e.g., government grants—NSF, Fulbright, NIH). Be sure to explore whether or not this is a requirement when searching for grants.