

MSU PLS PhD Internal Funding Guide

GOF (Graduate Office Fellowships)

The department receives an annual budget from the MSU Graduate School to spend on PhD student research projects, training (ICPSR, etc.), recruitment, conferences, and data. We cannot spend this money towards stipends. We receive these funds in late August and must spend the entire budget by March. GOF provides most of our summer research funding, therefore, we must allocate all summer research funds by early March.

Requests for GOF funds should be sent to Sarah Krause. We require a budget (explain the cost of each item, provide quotes on services/travel/equipment/survey/data, etc.) and explanation of the request. For larger requests (above \$1000), we often ask for email support from your mentor/advisor.

Conference Funding

Sarah Krause provided a very helpful email with guidelines on requesting conference funds, which I have copied below.

The Department will typically provide up to \$500 per conference of support, based on availability of funds. At this point your request can be sent to the College to cover additional costs if needed. The College can input any funding it so chooses or none, depending on their budget. From there the request is sent by the College to the Graduate School. The Graduate School will fund students up to \$600, which is their **lifetime cap**. PLEASE NOTE: This means once they have provided \$600 to you, you will not receive funding from the Graduate School again. The Graduate School also requires the student to be the first and presenting author to provide funds.

Applications for funding must be submitted **before** travel takes place. You can send items early, but I cannot submit a request until the semester the travel takes place in.

Your application for travel support must include the following:

1. A completed Travel Funding Request form: [https://grad.msu.edu/sites/default/files/content/funding/Travel%20 Funding Form FS21.pdf](https://grad.msu.edu/sites/default/files/content/funding/Travel%20Funding_Form_FS21.pdf)
2. A funding proposal that includes the following:
 - a. A statement of where you are in the graduate program ; your major and minor fields; the title of your conference paper; whether you are lead author and presenter; a short abstract of the paper; the location of the conference and dates of travel; and whether you have received any funds to present at the conference.
 - b. A copy of the acceptance email or letter from the conference

- c. A budget for your trip. Include receipts and/or copies of reservations or other materials that document real or estimated costs. Please use this site for Per Diem calculations: <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>

Please consider other sources of funding support to assist you, such as grants or your major professor, to ensure funding as you progress through the program. Some additional funding sources for your conference/travel and development needs:

COGS- <https://cogs.msu.edu/resources/funding/conference-award/>

GenCen- <https://gencen.isp.msu.edu/graduate-students/funding/>

AGEP Scholar Award (can fund combination of travel and professional development)- <https://grad.msu.edu/agep/scholar>

For international travel: International Studies and Programs (ISP) – small travel grants to international professional conferences to present papers. The research presented must have an international focus. **Only one request per student will be considered during their degree program.** Eligible students should send the completed travel funding application to International Studies and Programs (thele103@msu.edu). ISP will then forward the application on to the Graduate School for funding consideration.

College Fellowships for Dissertation or Proposal Research

There are 3 main fellowships offered by the College of Social Science that can support graduate student research- <https://socialscience.msu.edu/graduate/research-support.html> . Typically, students apply for these awards after completing comps, to support dissertation proposal and/or dissertation research.

Applications this year are due to Sarah Reckhow and Sarah Krause by February 16.

The awards are:

- Thompson Endowment- up to \$4500; cannot cover tuition, travel, or publication fees
- Core Research Enrichment Fund- up to \$3000
- CSS Research Scholars Award- up to \$4000

International Travel

These two research awards specifically support international research/travel:

[Dr. Charles and Marjorie Gliozzo Dissertation Research Scholarship](#)

This scholarship is available to MSU doctoral students with dissertation research objectives who have defended, or are in the process of defending, a dissertation proposal. The scholarship supports field research abroad in support of the student's dissertation.

[Walker Hill Scholarship](#)

The Walker Hill International Award is available to MSU doctoral students to be used for pre-dissertation visits to a doctoral research site in a country outside the United States (for international students, research in one's own country does not qualify). The student must have completed adequate credits and be able to submit a description, appropriateness and feasibility of pre-dissertation research objectives to be accomplished during the period spent abroad.

Financial need may be considered. Previous recipients of a Walker Hill award or an ISP Predissertation Travel Award are not eligible.

Please see each link for more information about the award, including necessary application materials and submission procedures. If you have any questions or problems submitting, please contact (517)355-2350 or ISP.scholarship@msu.edu. For information on additional student funding sources with an international focus, visit: <https://www.isp.msu.edu/information-resources/student-funding>.

Summer

You will need to start planning for summer (and your summer funding needs) in February. All summer research funding applications (using GOF) will be due by **February 28**. Remember—for larger amounts (\$1000 and higher)—we'll need support from your advisor.

Note the following:

- Most PhD students apply for and receive summer online teaching positions with the department for a stipend of \$6500; the application process for these funds is separate from the research funding covered by GOF
- IQMR is a qualitative and mixed methods workshop at Syracuse University that is fully funded (we are institutional members of this consortium). If you are interested, we will have 1 or 2 slots available-
https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan/cqrm/Institute_for_Qualitative_and_Multi-Method_Research/
- GOF Summer Funds can support the following:
 - ICPSR Summer Courses- <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/pages/sumprog/>
 - Other training/workshops (i.e. language training, methods, etc.)
 - Fieldwork travel
 - Data
 - Surveys
 - Hiring undergraduate Ras
 - Potentially other things too... just ask