

DEAN'S ACADEMIC AWARD FOR DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

The *Dean's Academic Award for Doctoral Dissertation* is an award to support qualified doctoral candidates in the completion of their dissertation research. The purpose of this fund is not to replace the scholarship mechanism, the T32/NRSA fellowships, or other academic and dissertation funding mechanisms. The purpose of this award is to assist students during a critical phase of their candidacy and the completion of their dissertation work. Up to \$5000 is available per award. The funding can be used for tuition, fees, stipend, research assistance, statistical consultation, dissertation research expenses, or other approved request related to completion of the dissertation work. The director of the doctoral program is able to access this annual fund on behalf of dissertation advisors and doctoral candidates after appropriate review and recommendation by an award review panel consisting of doctoral faculty. The director of the doctoral program, Dr. Gail Houck, appoints the panel members; the director will also serve as an ex-officio to the panel. The 2004-2005 panel consists of the following faculty: Dr. Leslie Bevan, Dr. Kim Jones, and Dr. Anne Rosenfeld.

Doctoral candidates applying for this award must meet the following criteria:

1. Faculty committee and IRB or IACUC have approved dissertation proposal;
2. Actively engaged in data collection;
3. Demonstrated financial need; and
4. Dissertation advisor recommendation.

Candidates may receive this award one time, for up to one year. It is expected that the candidate will complete her/his dissertation within one calendar year. Each academic year, funds will be allocated based on the number of students at data collection by 09/15.

Application deadlines during the academic year include: 09/15, 12/15, 03/15, and 06/15. Applications will be submitted to Dr. Gail Houck for subsequent panel review. The 1-page application is expected to include the following:

1. A brief description of current dissertation research activities.
2. Time line for completion of dissertation, including oral defense.
3. Current and pending funding sources.
4. Current dissertation budget.
5. Budget request justification.
6. Biographical Sketch.

In addition, each applicant is asked to submit a letter of support, with *confirmation of the estimated timeline*, from the dissertation advisor.

If funding is for a single lump sum, it will be awarded as such. If funding is required over the period of a year, the award funds will be distributed quarterly. A 1-page progress report with the advisor's signature of approval will be required 6 months post-award; additional funds will not be distributed without a progress report. Progress reports may be submitted to Dr. Houck by 09/05, 12/05, 03/05, or 06/05, whichever date occurs 6 months after the initial award. At the conclusion of the dissertation, award recipients are asked to write a paragraph about the significance of this award to the completion of their dissertation work.