

**Graduate Student Summer Research Fellowship**

Any graduate student in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences may apply for a summer stipend to support his/her scholarly efforts. Awards are made on a competitive basis in the amount of $3000 for work in June, July, and August.

**Eligibility**

Students in good academic standing in either a master’s or doctoral program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are eligible. BS/MS or BA/MA students who clearly will be in the graduate portion of their degree program during the summer of support are eligible. The project should be directly related to the applicant’s completion of degree requirements (e.g., thesis or dissertation work, Independent Study or Directed Research, a capstone requirement in the program, etc). **A student may receive this form of support only once.**

Villanova University students cannot receive support to conduct research in countries under a Travel Warning from the [U.S. Department of State](http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html). In the event that a country is placed on a travel warning after funding has been awarded, students must communicate with the Office of Graduate Studies to cancel travel arrangements and return any funds that have been awarded.

**Criteria**

Applications are evaluated by a standing committee of graduate faculty in the College according to the following criteria:

• Feasibility of the project;

• Whether the proposed project or a significant amount of research can be completed during one summer;

• Clarity and persuasiveness of the proposal (applicants should keep in mind that the proposals will be evaluated by faculty from outside the applicant’s discipline);

• Whether the applicant plans to publish or present the results of the research;

• The importance of the project for the applicant’s completion of his or her degree.

**How to Apply**

The application should consist of the following two items. Proposals that do not follow these guidelines will not be reviewed. Both parts of the application should be submitted electronically to the Dean of Graduate Studies, [GSDean@villanova.edu](mailto:GSDean@villanova.edu).

• Cover Page: Use this form, which contains the following information:

* the title of the project
* the applicant’s name and graduate program
* a 100-word abstract of the proposal
* the name of the applicant’s faculty sponsor
* the name of the applicant’s chairperson

• Formal Proposal: The project proposal, for which there is no form, should consist of three parts:

1. A three-page, double-spaced narrative description of the project that details:

* the applicant’s name, graduate program, and project title;
* the rationale/background for the proposed work (using language directed towards a general audience of readers, not necessarily from your discipline);
* a clear description of the research plan and proposed methodology (including a timeline);
* a statement of the impact of the award on the student’s progress toward graduation.

2. A one-page bibliography or reference section of relevant supporting scholarship.

3. An appendix using figures (two-page limit).

**Faculty Evaluation of the Project**

Applicants should ask their faculty sponsor to submit a one-page confidential evaluation electronically to the Dean of Graduate Studies, [GSDean@villanova.edu](mailto:GSDean@villanova.edu).

**Deadline for Proposals and Review Process**

Completed applications (with Cover Page) should be emailed to the Dean of Graduate Studies at [GSDean@villanova.edu](mailto:GSDean@villanova.edu) by no later than January 20. ***No extensions will be granted***.

The confidential faculty evaluation of the student’s proposal should be emailed to Dr. Christine Palus, Dean of Graduate Studies (christine.palus@villanova.edu ) by January 20. ***No extensions will be granted***.

Decisions about the applications will be announced by mid-to-late March.

**Final Report**

A final 2-page report on the outcome of the summer award must be submitted by the student to the Office of the Graduate Dean by September 15.

***Revised, 07/10/2017***