



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY™

GRADUATE DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS 2027-2028

The Saint Louis University Dissertation Fellowship seeks to encourage a new generation of scholars to undertake innovative and extensive research. Dissertation Fellowships are competitively awarded to Saint Louis University Ph.D. candidates whose work during their time at Saint Louis University demonstrates outstanding academic achievement and whose dissertation will significantly extend the body of knowledge within their discipline. Students may receive the fellowship once during their program after they have advanced to candidacy. Only one applicant from each graduate program can apply. Departments will determine how they will choose which applicant to put forward if more than one student is interested in applying.

Award

Each eleven-month fellowship award carries a monthly stipend, up to 12 hours of tuition scholarship (depending on the number of hours needed to graduate), and health insurance. Students must be enrolled as a full-time student for the award period. To be classified as a full-time student during the dissertation stage, a student needs to be enrolled in at least 1 hour until completing 12 hours and then may enroll in zero hours. The start and end dates of the eleven-month fellowship typically correspond with the University's fiscal year (July 1 to May 31). **No other fellowship, traineeship, assistantship, or similar appointment may be held concurrently.** Students may apply who have other funding pending; however, if both are awarded, students must choose only one source of funding. Students may defer funding for 1 year if they can still complete the fellowship within the maximum time frame allowed for the program.

Eligibility

Applicants for the eleven-month awards must have passed their oral exams and advanced to candidacy before the application deadline. Students receiving this award must complete the fellowship before reaching the end of the maximum number of years (five) for funding in a Doctoral program or six in programs that permit six years of funding. **A student must be nominated by the department and only one student may be nominated by each graduate program.**

Criteria

Applicants must demonstrate outstanding academic achievement and a proposed dissertation that will significantly extend the body of knowledge within their discipline. This will be determined from the student's application letter and a letter of support from their mentor.

Responsibilities

Fellows are expected to submit a summary of their research to the Office of Graduate Education at the completion of the fellowship for inclusion in publications and symposia highlighting scholarship at Saint Louis University. Mentors are expected to monitor deadlines and support the fellow's progress. The student is required to file a progress report by February 28. In addition, Dissertation Fellows must also attend the Graduate Education Department's New Fellowship Orientation at the beginning of the Fall semester in the month of August.



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Submission Procedures

Graduate programs will select one student for nomination. The program nominator will use the Graduate Education Dissertation Fellowship Application Portal to submit a complete Dissertation Fellowship Application Packet. Please contact the nominee to ensure the required documents are received to complete the application. Please review the list of required documents needed to submit a complete packet. **The deadline for all submissions is Monday, December 14, 2026.**

Dissertation Fellowship Application Portal: <https://form.jotform.com/261846463250155>

Dissertation Fellowship Application Packet

The following documents must be included to be considered a complete packet. No other documents will be accepted for review.

1. Departmental Nomination Checklist signed by the nominating Department Chair
2. Letter of Application from Nominee (student) in the form of a cover page
 - a. Name, email and mailing address, major field, number of years at SLU and the academic program
 - b. Describe any prior funding from SLU (*sources, time frames NOTE: this excludes external funding sources*)
 - c. Statement of commitment to meeting all deadlines and reporting requirements
 - d. Statement of any other pending funding that would be used instead of this award
3. Nominee's curriculum vitae
4. Professional Goal Statement highlighting nominee's intellectual interest in his/her chosen discipline (500 words submitted as an attachment)
5. Description of the project; including statement of the problem or research question(s), approach to be taken, anticipated outcomes, and significance of the research on the applicant's discipline (*3-page maximum not including references, 12-point, single-spaced submitted as an attachment*)
6. Detailed timeline for degree completion (*1-page maximum submitted as an attachment*)
7. Letter of Nomination from Saint Louis University Ph.D. Mentor not to exceed 500 words that includes the following:
 - Nominee's academic achievement while at SLU
 - The importance of the nominee's proposed research on the discipline
 - Nominee's timeline for completion
 - Your commitment to supervising the project and all deadlines

If you have any questions, please contact Felicia C. Echols, academic affairs coordinator by email felicia.echols@slu.edu or 314.977.2601



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**Graduate Dissertation Fellowship
Departmental Nomination Packet Checklist**

1. _____ Nominee is selected from the graduate program
 2. _____ Department Chair or Program Director has signed this form authorizing the nomination
 3. The nominee has a complete application packet of all the required documents listed below:
 - a. _____ Nomination Checklist
 - b. _____ Letter of Nomination from Saint Louis University Ph.D. Mentor not to exceed 500 words that includes the following:
 - Statement that nominee has advanced to candidacy
 - Nominee's academic achievement while at SLU, dedication to the field and potential for contribution
 - The importance of the proposed research on the nominee's discipline, and appropriateness of method of inquiry, and feasibility of timeline for completion
 - Mentor's commitment to supervising the project and all deadlines.
 4. _____ Nominee Letter of Application (*cover page*)
 - a. Name, email and mailing address, major field, number of years at SLU and the academic program
 - b. Describe any prior funding from SLU (*sources, time frames NOTE: this excludes external funding sources*)
 - c. Statement of commitment to meeting all deadlines and reporting requirements
 - d. Statement of any other pending funding that would be used instead of this award.
 5. _____ Nominee's curriculum vitae
 6. _____ Professional Goal Statement highlighting nominee's intellectual interest in his/her chosen discipline (*500 words*)
 7. _____ Description of the project; including statement of the problem or research question(s), approach to be taken, anticipated outcomes, and significance of the research on the nominee's discipline (*3-page maximum not including references, 12-point, single-spaced*)
 8. _____ Detailed timeline for degree completion (*1-page maximum submitted as an attachment*)
 9. _____ Contact information of nominee's mentor
- Name: _____ Email: _____
- Phone: _____

DEPARTMENT CHAIR OR PROGRAM DIRECTOR APPROVAL

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____



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**Graduate Dissertation Fellowship
Nominee Letter of Application – Cover Page**

Complete this form and submit the Nominee Professional Goal Statement, Description of Project, and Timeline as attachments.

Name:

Banner ID:

Mailing Address:

E-mail Address:

Phone Number:

Doctoral Program and School or College:

Number of Years in Program:

Prior Funding from Saint Louis University (*Sources, types, amount, time frames*):

Statement regarding any other pending funding for the dissertation work:

Statement of commitment to meeting the deadlines and reporting requirements: