



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

College of Mass Communications™

Graduate Student Research Grant Program 2011-2012

In 2007 the college's two Regent Professors created a \$3,000-a-year fund primarily designed to support graduate student research, although funds could also be available to new faculty who have yet to undergo their third-year review. Each of the Regent Professors contributes \$1,500 from their endowment.

These funds are intended to support research concerning areas relevant to the Regents Professorship endowments. That is, funds would be available to support Hispanic-related, cross-cultural, international or strategic communication research. Strategic communication might include crisis communications, health care, political communication, convergent media or social media. The maximum amount that an applicant may receive for a specific grant proposal is \$500. However, students may submit more than one proposal during the academic year.

Procedure

Graduate students interested in receiving funds must submit a grant proposal using the grant application form. The proposal consists of a concise narrative and a budget. The narrative should describe the project, discuss its significance in light of current knowledge in the field, explain how the funds would be spent, and identify expected outcomes (e.g. used to support thesis or dissertation work, presented at a specific conference, etc.). The narrative should be no longer than 750 words (excluding citations). The budget should specifically detail how the funds would be spent. In addition, if applicable, students must attach documentation of approval for research on human subjects by Texas Tech's Institutional Review Board.

Listed below are the specific requirements of the graduate research grants:

1. There is a rolling deadline for applications. Students can begin submitting grant applications on October 1 and the final deadline is May 15. After April 15, assistant professors who have not undergone their third-year review are eligible to apply for any remaining funding. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come-first-served basis until the funding caps are reached.

2. While there is a rolling deadline, graduate students are asked to send an e-mail message to Kent Wilkinson by November 1 in fall or February 15 in spring indicating their intention to submit a proposal during that semester. This will assist the committee with budget planning.
3. To be eligible for funding of a research project, students must have received human subjects approval in advance (if applicable). To be eligible for funding in support of thesis or dissertation research, students must have successfully defended their proposal.
4. Priority will be given to funds that help a graduate student begin or sustain a research project, such as moderate equipment or supplies costs, the cost of conducting a survey, or travel costs to conduct the research.
5. Travel costs to present a paper at a conference would be a lesser priority as funds are already available from college and Graduate School sources to fund student travel. Travel funds to present papers at a conference would only be available to the individual presenting the paper.
6. Priority will be given to doctoral students over master's students. If funds still remain, after April 15, assistant professors who have yet to undergo their third-year review would be eligible for funding.
7. The maximum amount that any graduate student could receive for a specific grant proposal is \$500. However, students may submit more than one proposal during the academic year.
8. Note that funds must be spent by July in order to prevent their being "swept" from college accounts at the end of the fiscal year.
9. Recipients of funds are required to comply with all college and university policies regarding approvals, purchasing, reimbursements, etc. It is the recipient's responsibility to coordinate such matters with the college accountant, Ms. Tamara Ginter.