

Billy I. and Avis R. Ross Graduate Research Award

One of the sources associated with graduate student research funding is the Billy I. and Avis R. Ross Graduate Research Award for Mass Communications, which be used to fund only thesis and dissertation research.

Donors hoped that the fund would allow for more complete and robust research to be conducted by College of Mass Communications graduate students.

Funds CAN be used to pay for the following:

- Participation incentives
- Stimulus material creation
- Travel expenses associated with data collection
- Material reproduction
- Recording/transcribing
- Other expenses as approved by the award committee

Funds CANNOT be used to pay for the following:

- Researcher stipend/salary
- Conference or presentation travel
- Technology
- Expenses not approved by university
- Content analysis coding

The Process:

1. Students will submit their 5-page proposals (after faculty mentor approval) with a one-page budget outline(limit \$500) to the awards committee. Proposals should explain the importance of the project by including a brief literature review and a justification of need for further investigation. Proposal should also outline how funds from the endowment will improve the project.
2. Any study that will require IRB approval will require that IRB approval is granted before application. The approval form should be submitted with the proposal.
3. The awards committee will be composed of COMC graduate faculty members.
4. Students must be enrolled in thesis/dissertation hours during the semester the funds will be distributed.
5. Proposals should be submitted to the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies by Oct. 1 for fall funding, February 15 for spring funding, and June 15 for summer funding.
6. Awards will be made until yearly allocation of funds is exhausted. Yearly allocation will vary.