



FACULTY GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT (FGRA) AWARD

The Faculty Graduate Research Assistantship Award was established to provide faculty with research assistance for their scholarly endeavors leading to publication and to provide institutional financial support to graduate students within the context of a mentored research experience. The award is made for the Fall and Spring semesters, and a faculty member may re-apply for subsequent awards.

The GRA's time is restricted to research activities, not routine clerical work or any other purpose for which the faculty member is responsible. The faculty member to whom the GRA is assigned is responsible for monitoring the GRA's time and for assuring the integrity and appropriate documentation of any work done by the GRA. The GRA's expected work load is 150 hours per semester.

The faculty member shall, when appropriate, share authorship with the GRA, and at all times, shall acknowledge the GRA's work in publications that report research to which the GRA has contributed.

Award Amount: Tuition benefit of 3 credit hours to student's account per semester

Award Period: Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semester

Faculty Eligibility

Full-time UIW faculty are eligible to apply for the award for collaborative or individual research projects at any stage of the research. Priority is given to Broadway campus full time faculty from the following schools:

CHASS- College of Humanities Arts and Social Sciences

DSE- Dreeben School of Education

HEBSBA- H.E.B. School of Business and Administration

IFMSNHP- Ila Faye Miller School of Nursing and Health Professions

SMSE- School of Math, Science, and Engineering

SMD- School of Media and Design

Student Eligibility

To be eligible for a Graduate Research Assistantship, a graduate student must be: a) regularly admitted to a degree program; b) in good academic standing; c) enrolled in at least six hours in the semester or session in which that the appointment occurs (doctoral students in dissertation writing who have completed their minimum dissertation enrollment and are on “continuous enrollment” status may meet this requirement with one hour of enrollment); and d) may not combine the award with other tuition discounts or student employment.

Application Preparation

All applications must be submitted online via [Submittable](#).

The following lists the contents of the application and method of entry:

- 1) Cover Sheet: fillable online form
 - a. Abstract (no more than 500 words) that summarizes the proposal objectives, benefits, and significance.
 - b. Project Impact (no more than 500 words)
 - i. How does the project relate to the mission of the university?
 - ii. Describe how the project will affect your research in the long term.
 - iii. How does the project impact teaching and mentoring?
 - iii. Indicate the journal or other publication outlet to which the research will be submitted. For pilot projects or projects that need continued support, indicate the projected source of funds for further work.
- 2) Biographical Sketch (use provided [template](#); 2-page maximum): UPLOAD as Attachment
 - a. Include all relevant data in the provided form fields. The biographical sketch may not exceed two pages. Sections should include:
 - i. Personal statement (a paragraph description of the researcher’s expertise and ability to conduct the proposed research)
 - ii. Positions and honors
 - iii. Selected peer-reviewed publications
 - iv. Research support
 - v. Specific scholarship outcomes from past UIW research support

Indicate N/A for any section irrelevant to the bio sketch.
- 3) Research/Project Proposal (use provided [template](#); 6-page maximum or 7-pages with Bibliography): UPLOAD as Attachment

- a. Statement of Problem/Purpose
 - i. The statement of problem/purpose should be clear and concise, directly stating the objective of the project.
 - b. Background and Significance
 - i. This section should clearly articulate the importance of this study for the researcher's discipline, UIW, and society. Include relevant literature to support the current status of research in this field and the proposed approach to the study.
 - c. Theoretical/Aesthetic Framework
 - i. Introduce the theoretical framework or philosophical orientation of the project. Clearly articulate the objectives, hypotheses, and/or research questions and ensure they are supportive of the background information and statement of problem/purpose.
 - d. Research/Creative Methodology
 - i. Quantitative or qualitative research methodology should indicate a logical, clear, and appropriate design, sample and setting, and intervention. Measurement instruments should be congruent with the variable measured. Indicate support for the validity and reliability of processes and instruments. Articulate the methods of data collection and plans for analysis. In the case of human or animal subjects, state measures for protection and describe the risks and benefits of this study.
 - ii. Non-quantitative or non-qualitative research methodology should present a logical, clear design appropriate to the study.
 - iii. Artistic project methodology should present a logical, clear design and plans for presentation appropriate to the project.
 - e. Timeline
 - i. The timeline should be realistic and organized appropriately for the type of project and outline the progress of the work over the course of the award period.
 - f. Bibliographic References (use provided [template](#); 1-page maximum)
- 4) GRA Job Description (use provided [template](#); 2 page maximum): UPLOAD as Attachment
- a. Description of role

- b. Learning outcomes
 - c. Special skills required to work on the project
 - d. Anticipated work schedule
- 5) Research Compliance
- a. Projects are subject to the following research compliance areas:
 - i. If human or animal subjects will be used for the proposed project, award funds will not be released until the project has appropriate research compliance approval. *Approval is not needed in advance of application. However, please indicate the status of your application (approved, under review, or not yet submitted).*

Evaluation Criteria

The goal of the award is to encourage faculty research and creative scholarship, as well as support students with a mentored research experience. Although the quality and significance of the work proposed is of paramount importance, consideration will be given to other factors that are relevant to the mission, vision, and advancement of the university. All completed applications that are submitted online will be reviewed by the Faculty Research Awards Committee.

The Faculty Research Awards Committee is composed of faculty across a number of backgrounds. Please write your submissions to a general audience and be sure to define acronyms or field-specific jargon.

Each section of the application will be reviewed and evaluated. Some of the major areas that will be evaluated are, but not limited to:

- Significance of the study to the discipline and to the university's strategic plan.
- Design of the project based on methodology and theoretical, conceptual or aesthetic framework.
- Overall proposal adheres to the guidelines, page limits, and is within the purpose of the award.
- The project advances the mission of the university.