PHD DISSERTATION COMPLETION AWARD

The Graduate School is pleased to announce the PhD Dissertation Completion award for Spring 2017 term. Only graduate students who are in their final term of PhD dissertation writing can be supported since the award is intended to encourage timely completion of the PhD degree. Applicants must be prepared to complete their dissertation no later than May 2017. This award is a Graduate Research Assistantship for the Spring 2017 term. The applications are due November 21, 2016. Link to Funding Opportunities.

This Spring 2017 award includes a stipend of $6,350 for 5 (five) months and three (3) tuition credits.* The additional supplement of $130/month will be provided. University fees and other fees are not included. The student will be a member of the Graduate Employee Organization (GEO), represented by MEA-MFT.

Eligibility
The application is open to PhD candidates in any department at MSU-Bozeman. Applicants must have completed all requirements for the PhD except the dissertation (obtained ABD** status) by the application deadline. The application is restricted to graduate students who, at the time of application, have progressed no further than four (4) years of their degree program. (This includes time for a master's degree obtained en route to the PhD.)

Graduate students who hold teaching or research assistantships or who are employed by the University in any capacity in spring 2017, are not eligible for this award.

Also Graduate students who have previously held a PhD Dissertation Completion award are not eligible to apply.

Application Requirements
Applications must be submitted online, in one continuous document and must include:

1. Completed application form. See link.

2. Proposal (no more than three (3) pages, double-spaced, at least 1-inch margin on all sides, and in Times New Roman 11-point font).

   **Content:** A concise statement describing your research project. The narrative statement should explain, briefly but specifically, what you plan to do and why, as well as describe progress already made. Discuss the significance of this work within your specific and general fields. Balance the description of specific work plans against an overview of your goals and the contribution this project will make to the field(s) it engages. A multi-disciplinary committee will
review the proposal, so be sure to explain terms that might not be familiar to those outside your field or subfield.

3. Title, authors, affiliation, proposed journals, and 250 word abstracts for at least one (1) manuscripts that will be submitted for peer-review by the end of the award duration. The manuscript must be an outcome of the dissertation. Alternatively, a 250 word abstract for a book (not a book chapter) that is an outcome of the dissertation if that is appropriate. This should be no more than one (1) page (double-spaced, at least 1-inch margin on all sides, and in Times New Roman 11-point font).

4. One-page timeline for the expected completion of dissertation writing, defense, and products as specified in item 3. Timeline should be double-spaced, at least 1-inch margin on all sides, and in Times New Roman 11-point font.

5. Bibliography (not literature cited, and no more than two (2) pages, single-spaced, at least 1-inch margin on all sides, and in Times New Roman 11-point font). The bibliography should provide an overview of essential references and should balance the various sorts of key materials being used.

6. Two letters of reference, one page/reference. One letter must be from the primary research chair; it must attest to the completion of the dissertation requirements by May, 2017 and stipulate that, in the event of an award, the department will not provide the applicant with any additional financial award or another appointment during the duration of the award.

Evaluation Criteria

1. The potential of the project to advance the field of study in which it is proposed and make an original and significant contribution to knowledge.

2. The quality of the proposal with regard to its methodology, scope, theoretical framework, and grounding in the relevant scholarly literature.

3. The feasibility of the project and the likelihood that the applicant will execute the work within the proposed timeframe.

4. The scholarly record and career trajectory of the applicant.

Failure to complete and defend the dissertation and have it accepted by The Graduate School’s ETD (electronic thesis/dissertation) format advisor by the deadline of April 18, 2017.
will result in the ineligibility of any student from the department to apply for this award for three (3) consecutive years.

*Per the Policy of MSU and The Graduate school, students must be enrolled for at least 3 (three) credits in the term they defend their dissertation and complete their program of study.

**ABD: All but dissertation.