



PHD DISSERTATION COMPLETION AWARD, 2019:

UPDATED CRITERIA

This award announcement is for spring 2019 only, but we will return to fall, spring or AY option next year.

The Graduate School is pleased to announce another PhD Dissertation Completion award for Spring 2019. This award is for graduate students who are in their final term of PhD research and dissertation writing and will graduate by Spring 2019 (however the Graduate School is open to consider applications for two terms, Spring 2019 and Fall 2019). Applications for Spring consideration are due now through the start of Spring 2019 classes.

This award provides an assistantship for Spring Semester 2019, a stipend of \$1,400 per month, an additional supplement of \$130/month and three (3) tuition credits in the spring. 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.

Exclusions

- Graduate students who hold teaching or research assistantships or who are employed by MSU in any capacity during the same time period.
- Graduate students who have previously held a PhD Dissertation Completion Award for two semesters. If awarded for one term, they may apply for a second consecutive term.

Application Requirements

Applications must be submitted as one continuous document attachment to Melis Edwards at gradschool@montana.edu and will include:

1. Completed [application form](#).
2. A concise statement describing your research goals. The narrative should describe the intellectual merit of your research within your specific and general fields and contain a list of specific contributions and their potential impact. (No more than three (3) pages**).
3. Timeline (1 page) for the expected completion of dissertation writing and defense. **

4. Two letters of reference (1 page each/reference **) One reference must be from the primary research chair. The letter must attest to the completion of all dissertation requirements and the scholarly products by the intended commencement date. Further, the letter must state 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. The second letter is of your choosing.
5. Curriculum Vitae (condensed to 1 page**) List: i) academic preparation, ii) teaching and outreach activities, iii) awards and honors, iv) existing peer-reviewed publications, and v) existing presentations (list as either oral or poster).

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.

If awarded, it is expected that:

1. The Graduate School is notified by email of the defense date, time, and location.
2. The dissertation is defended by The Graduate School's deadlines.
3. The Graduate School's ETD (electronic thesis/dissertation) format advisor has accepted the dissertation by the appropriate deadline (see [ETD deadlines](#)).
4. The Graduate School is notified in writing on the status of scholarly products by the day before commencement.

Note: It is advised that the student consult with The Graduate School on eligibility before preparing the application. It is also recommended that the Research Advisor and other authors acknowledge all scholarly products in Activity Insight.

**ABD: All but dissertation.*

*** Double-spaced, Times New Roman 11-point font with at least a 1-inch margin on all sides.*