

American Philosophical Society

2023-2024 Grant and Fellowship Programs

Oregon Research Development Network

October 20, 2023

Review



The Society awards about \$2,000,000 every year in support of over 200 scholars

Funds are awarded for archival research, field work, and work in APS collections

APS Members make up all selection committees and are frequent reviewers

The Society offers a combination of travel grants and residential and non-residential fellowships

Franklin Research Grants

Franklin Research Grants are made, in all areas of knowledge, to scholars with a doctorate to fund research-related travel. Applicants can request a one-year award of up to \$6,000, and the program annually receives more than 400 applications

The Society is engaged in joint fellowship programs with the British Academy in London and with the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities in Edinburgh

Deadlines are October 1 and December 1, with notification in January and March

In 2022-2023, the Franklin Grants program awarded \$561,800 to 103 scholars

Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research

This program encourages exploratory field studies for the collection of specimens and data and to provide the imaginative stimulus that accompanies direct observation. Awards are made in all fields of knowledge

Applications are accepted from doctoral-level students

Grants range from several hundred through \$5,000, and the program regularly attracts in excess of 400 applicants per year

In 2022-2023 the Lewis and Clark Fund made 91 awards, totalling \$412,500

Lewis and Clark Fund for Exploration and Field Research in Astrobiology

The NASA Astrobiology Program supports this program, which draws 20 to 30 applications per year seeking support for astrobiological field work

Applicants may be graduate students or postdoctoral or junior scientists and may request up to \$5,000

In 2023, the Lewis and Clark in Astrobiology Fund made 8 grants, awarding \$34,075

Phillips Fund Grants

The Phillips Fund Committee reviews between 50 and 60 proposals each year from scholars carrying out research in the continental United States and Canada on Native American linguistics, ethnohistory, and the history of studies of Native Americans

Eligible applicants include graduate students for research on master's or doctoral dissertations as well as senior and emeritus scholars. The maximum award is \$3,500

The deadline is March 1, with notification in early May

In 2023, the Phillips Fund program made 25 awards, totaling \$80,800

John Hope Franklin Dissertation Fellowship

The John Hope Franklin Dissertation Fellowship supports the completion of Ph.D. projects by students of great promise from groups underrepresented in academia

The stipend is \$28,000 for a flexible 12-month award period, and the program is administered in conjunction with two national fellowship-granting organizations

One award is made per year, and the fellowship includes a request for a tuition waiver as well as support for attendance at cohort fellows' conferences hosted by the source institutions

American Philosophical Library

105 S. Fifth Street, Philadelphia, PA

The APS Library's core collections are in early America, history of science, and Native American and indigenous studies

Major Centers:

The David Center for the American Revolution

Center for Native American and Indigenous Research (CNAIR)

Center for Digital Scholarship

Center for the History of Science and Technology (proposed)

Fellowship stipends range from \$3000 per month for short-term fellows to \$25,000 to \$60,000 per year for long-term fellows

Library and Museum Fellowships

Postdoctoral & Sabbatical Fellowships

- David Center for the American Revolution Postdoctoral Fellowship
- Mellon Native American Scholars Initiative (NASI) Postdoctoral Fellowship

Predoctoral Fellowships

- David Center for the American Revolution Predoctoral Fellowship
- Mellon Native American Scholars Initiative (NASI) Predoctoral Fellowship
- John C. Slater Predoctoral Fellowship in the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine

Short-Term Research Fellowships

- 1-3 month resident research fellowships
- David Center for the American Revolution Fellowships for International Scholars
- Digital Humanities Fellowships
- Mellon Foundation Native American Scholars Initiative (NASI) Digital Knowledge Sharing Fellowships
- Indigenous Community Research Fellowships

Review Process

All applications in the Franklin and Lewis and Clark programs are read by three reviewers, one of whom serves on the selection committee. Applications are assigned to experts in the field of the applicant, but applications should be written in accessible language as all selection committee members are welcome to read any application

All applications in the Phillips Fund, John Hope Franklin, and Library Fellowship programs are read by the entire selection committee

Reviewers are asked to assign a grade from 1 to 6, lowest to highest, with half grades acceptable and to provide a few sentences explaining the grade. Averages are then compiled to facilitate the selection committees' deliberations

Tips for a Strong Application

The project statement should include information on why the project is significant—Does it break new ground? Correct errors?

While an applicant should note in the project statement why the requested travel is necessary, there is no need to use the limited space available to list chapters or specific collections

The applicant should assume that a person in the same field will be reading the application BUT avoid jargon that excludes the educated layperson

The work proposed must be feasible with respect to the timeframe and budget indicated

Budgets can be based on past experience or Internet research on prices (it is never a good idea to use U.S. State Department figures) and must be explained in some detail (avoid writing simply “per diem” in the subsistence line)

Letter writers should speak to both the project and the applicant’s ability to carry out the work

Letter writers must be selected according to the specific requirements of the program

Grantee and Fellow Obligations

All grantees are required to submit project and financial reports within one month of completing the funded work

Phillips Fund recipients are required to submit materials mentioned in their applications for accessioning by the APS Library

APS residential fellows are obligated to participate in fellows' activities and to give a brown-bag talk

APS Press—Publishing Scholarly Works Since 1771

All APS grantees and fellows are invited to submit a manuscript for consideration by the APS Publications Committee

APS Press has entered into a partnership with Penn Press

Grantees and fellows may be asked to expand their project reports into article-length publications in an APS journal

Questions?

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For information on all APS Library residential fellowships

www.amphilsoc.org