Summer Research Award
For Graduate Students
College of Arts and Science

Summer 2010

The Program: The College of Arts and Science Summer Research Award (SRA) program is designed to help graduate students with outstanding potential to accelerate progress on their research, whether for the doctoral thesis or for other advanced projects. It is meant to help outstanding students in those departments in the College of Arts and Science in which summer support for graduate student research is rare or non-existent. There will be 22 awards of $4500 each.

Who is eligible? Doctoral students in good standing making satisfactory progress toward the degree are eligible for the SRA. It is expected that successful applicants will have spent no longer than four years in the degree program as of the spring semester of 2010. The funds are not to be used to support either coursework or preparation for qualifying exams but are, rather, intended to support mid-career students’ work for the dissertation, dissertation proposal, or other research projects. A student may receive this award no more than twice during his or her career at Vanderbilt.

Those selected for a Summer Research Award may not be supported by other funds—with the exception of a Dissertation Enhancement Grant—or hold other employment, including any type of teaching, during the course of the award (Tuesday, June 8 – Friday, August 13, 2010).

Application process: Applications should include a completed SRA Graduate Student Cover Sheet (blank cover sheets can be obtained through your DGS or departmental administrative assistant), a current curriculum vitae; two letters of support, one of which must be from a faculty member who is supervising the research proposed for funding; a transcript of coursework undertaken at Vanderbilt; and a 1-2 page proposal. The proposal should be intelligible to non-specialists, convey a sense of the importance of the research, and outline as concretely as possible what research activities will be undertaken during the grant period. All documents in the application should be single-sided (convert to single-sided if documents are not) and paper clipped together. Please do not staple.

For those students applying who have received this award previously, please include in your application information about the results from the last award and how that work has shaped this application.

Applicants should submit materials to the Director of Graduate Studies of their programs by Friday, January 15, 2010.

Each fellowship recipient must submit a final report to the College of Arts and Science and to his or her DGS. The report is due no later than Friday, August 20, 2010, and should provide an account of the research supported by the award and a description of how the student plans to develop this work in the future.

Questions? Prospective applicants should direct questions about the College of Arts and Science Summer Research Award Program to their Directors of Graduate Studies.