Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships

The American Council of Learned Societies invites applications for the annual competition for the Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowships. These fellowships are to assist graduate students in the humanities and related social sciences* in the last year of Ph.D. dissertation writing. This program aims to encourage timely completion of the Ph.D. Applicants must be prepared to complete their dissertations within the period of their fellowship tenure and no later than August 31, 2019.

ACLS will award 65 Fellowships in this competition for a one-year term beginning between June and September 2018 for the 2018-2019 academic year. The total award of up to $38,000 includes a stipend of $30,000 plus additional funds for university fees and research support. These Fellowships may not be held concurrently with any other fellowship or grant.

Eligibility

Applicants must:
1. be Ph.D. candidates in a humanities or social science department in the United States.
2. have all requirements for the Ph.D. except the dissertation completed before the application deadline.
3. be no more than six years in the degree program in 2018-2019; awardees can hold this Fellowship no later than their seventh year.

Interested students should apply directly to the fellowship, via the online application at: http://ofa.acls.org/ by October 25, 2017. Please see complete application requirements at: http://www.acls.org/programs/dcf/.

* Appropriate fields of specialization include but are not limited to: anthropology; archaeology; economics; geography; history; political science; psychology; and sociology. Proposals in the social science fields listed above are eligible only if they employ predominantly humanistic approaches (e.g., economic history, law and literature, political theory). Proposals in interdisciplinary and cross-disciplinary studies are welcome.

In the application, students will be asked to list two recommenders, who will be emailed instructions to submit letters of recommendation. Students will also be asked to list an individual who will submit a letter of institutional support. For students in the Social Sciences Division, this should be Dean of Students Patrick Hall (bp-hall@uchicago.edu).

In order for Dean Hall to write his letter of institutional support, applicants need to email the following materials to ssd-fellowships@uchicago.edu by Friday, October 20, 2017:

1. Updated CV
2. 1-page abstract of the dissertation
3. Signed Mellon/ACLS Eligibility Form (attached)
4. Timeline for the expected completion of dissertation writing and defense

In addition, the applicant should also have his or her dissertation advisor email ssd-fellowships@uchicago.edu indicating support for the project and the viability of the timeline.

Please note that the letter of institutional support will state the following:

"If [name of student] wins an ACLS Mellon Dissertation Completion fellowship, the Division of the Social Sciences guarantees that it will cover any tuition for [name of student] beyond $5,000, and that it will provide the required Student Life fee. The division will also provide [name of student] with University of Chicago student health insurance for the tenure of the Mellon fellowship.

"In accordance with the terms of the ACLS Mellon fellowship, the university will not support [name of student] with any additional gift financial aid subsequent to the Mellon fellowship."

More information about this fellowship can be found on the Mellon/ACLS website at: http://www.acls.org/programs/dcf/.

Questions about the application or about eligibility should be directed to Kelly Pollock at kpollock@uchicago.edu or at 773-795-3238.
Application for Mellon/ACLS Competition
Social Sciences Eligibility Form

Name:

UCID:

Email:

Department:

Starting Cohort:

Advancement to Candidacy Date:

Dissertation Chair:

I understand that in the institutional support letter from Dean Hall will state:

“If [name of student] wins an ACLS Mellon Dissertation Completion fellowship, the Division of the Social Sciences guarantees that it will cover any tuition for [name of student] beyond $5,000, and that it will provide the required Student Life fee. The division will also provide [name of student] with University of Chicago student health insurance for the tenure of the Mellon fellowship.

“In accordance with the terms of the ACLS Mellon fellowship, the university will not support [name of student] with any additional gift financial aid subsequent to the Mellon fellowship.”

I furthermore understand that this means that I will not be eligible for the tuition grant normally associated with teaching.

Signature: ________________________________________

Printed Name: ___________________________________

Date: _________________________________________