Russell G. Hamilton  
Graduate Leadership Institute  
Fall 2020 Dissertation Enhancement Grant  

Nature of the Grant: Awards of up to $2000 for research expenses related to student’s doctoral thesis. Grants are designed for PhD Students with outstanding potential to accelerate progress on their research, adding depth or breadth to their dissertation. They are granted on a competitive basis.

These awards are not a substitute for, nor a supplement to, graduate stipends. Award funds will either be provided directly to vendors via the Oracle procurement system, or will be provided to award recipients in the form of reimbursement for eligible expenses.

Students may request awards of up to $2,000; however, the GLI may not grant the full sum requested by every successful applicant. The degree of need demonstrated by the proposal, the number of successful applications, and the total available funds will be considered when determining final awards.

Due to COVID-19 applications that propose travel will not be considered during this grant cycle

Eligibility:

- Preference will be given to Ph.D. candidates engaged in full-time dissertation research. 
  *However, all Ph.D. students in good academic standing are eligible to apply.*
- Applicants must complete and expense the proposed research activities within the time period between September 21, 2020 and January 31, 2021.
- Students are allowed one GLI Dissertation Enhancement Grant per academic year and may receive this award no more than twice during their career at Vanderbilt.

NOTE: We ask that students be responsible stewards of GLI resources. Students who apply for the grant must be prepared to use the funds as proposed. If the awardee cannot move forward with the proposed activities, they must notify the GLI immediately. Recipients who fail to use their funding, barring extenuating circumstances, will be ineligible for future GLI Dissertation Enhancement Grants.

Deadline: Friday, September 4, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Application available at: vanderbilt.infoready4.com/CompetitionSpace/#competitionDetail/1820914

Application Materials:

1. Description of Dissertation Research: Present a succinct overview of your research that clearly conveys its nature and importance. Be certain to describe your project so reviewers outside your discipline are able to evaluate your proposal. 2-page max.

2. Enhancement Rationale: Specifically state how funds will be used, clearly describing how the proposed work will add additional depth, breadth, or otherwise enhance your dissertation. 2-page max.

3. Budget & Justification of Cost: Outline in detail the costs to complete the proposed work as well as a brief justification for why funds are not readily available from other sources (i.e., advisor's research grant, department, etc.). If the cost of the project exceeds $2000, state how the extra cost will be met. Please justify any unusual budget items (large amounts of computer time, personnel costs, etc.).

4. Letter of Support: A letter of support from a faculty member who will supervise the proposed research or who is familiar with your research.

Please contact Irene Wallrich for questions: 615-343-7030 or irene.wallrich@vanderbilt.edu