GSO Grants- COVID-19 Broadened Criteria

Due to COVID-19, the GSO travel grant committee has had to reimagine the criteria for its grants. We emphasize that this is money that GRS designates to GSO that we aim to distribute to as many students as possible. Even if we cannot travel to specific sites and conferences, and even if we are disturbed from our regular work schedules, the travel grant committee encourages you to apply to a conference or research grant as we believe that the expanded criteria will fit the needs of many students.

If you are unsure whether you fit within the criteria, email the GSO travel grant email to ask, we will aim to return your email as soon as possible.

Please see below for the guidelines for grant cycles August 1st 2020 and onwards until stated otherwise:

Guidelines for conference grants

As always, conference grants are viable for an *entire year* starting from the date you receive the award. For example, if you receive an email on July 15th, 2020 notifying you that you received a GSO conference grant, you have until July 15th, 2021 to use it. **New COVID addendums:** if your conference is cancelled, but you apply to a similar conference with the same paper, please notify us. Usually we allow you to keep the grant. In addition, if you incur costs from the cancelled conference, and then have additional costs from the new conference, you can use your grant to cover such reimbursements and save the rest of it for the new conference if it falls within the year-long rule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Falls within GSO’s conference grant</th>
<th>Please notify us if</th>
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<tr>
<td>● Renewal of membership required for an online conference (ex. APA (Philosophy) ESA (Biology) yearly membership which would be required for your participation)</td>
<td>● Your conference is cancelled and you are applying to/have been accepted to another conference (see above)</td>
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<tr>
<td>● A conference that will occur within a year that you receive the grant (see details above)</td>
<td>● You conference has moved online and you will have no costs associated with it (please let us know so that we can provide funds to other fellow graduate students in financial need)</td>
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<tr>
<td>● You received a GSO conference grant, but incurred cancellation costs when the conference was cancelled. We will allow you to use your conference grant to cover these costs</td>
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Guidelines for research grants

Just like conference grants and as we have always stipulated, research grants are viable for an *entire year* starting from the date you receive the award. For example, if you receive an email on July 15th, 2020 notifying you that you received a GSO research grant, you have until July 15th, 2021 to use it.

Due to COVID-19, we are encouraging everyone to think of “research” as more than simply travelling to a specific site. Here is a brief table example of what the GSO committee would constitute as viable for research grant funding.
## Fall within GSO’s “research” definition (these are only a few examples)

- Costs for image copyrights for manuscripts, articles, and dissertations. Please explain to us in this case what is typical in your field for image copyrights, and why these copyrights are a necessity rather than helpful. This can range from cancellation of travel so you will be unable to access a work in person for over a year, or a collection is nearby, but for health and safety reasons, you cannot access it in person.

- Cost to purchase select books that are incredibly difficult or almost impossible to access (purchasing articles that BU has no access to and HathiTrust has no access to, catalogues that are out of print and not accessible through ILL). Reference sources such as AbeBooks or Amazon for costs of the books.

- Online workshops (coding workshops, public humanities workshops) that would aid your research work. Please provide a link or screenshot to the workshop and cost.

- Costs for research materials for future research work (ex. a list of materials such as recording equipment, cameras, flashlights, metric sticks, calipers, color cards, microphones, a designated dissertation external drive). Please make sure to explain thoroughly what materials you already have specific to your discipline, whether some of this equipment is usually rented versus purchased, and why you need to purchase this additional equipment.

## Would not qualify as “research” expenses

- funding *only* to cover rent
- funding *only* to cover living expenses
- funding *only* to cover personal expenses (ex. purchasing a new laptop that would be used for not only research but also personal)