

Professional Development Grants for Doctoral Students

Purpose

The Office of the Associate Provost for Graduate Affairs offers professional development grants to support doctoral students' scholarly work and preparation for a wide variety of academic and nonacademic careers. Although Boston University offers many professional development opportunities for doctoral students through individual departments, offices, and organizations, we recognize that external opportunities often arise that have the potential to significantly benefit students' professional growth. The professional development grant program was established to provide financial support for such opportunities.

Eligibility

All current doctoral students at Boston University are eligible to apply, but preference will be given to students with a need for financial support. Professional development activities include, but are not limited to, workshops and short courses that support research, teaching, or professional skills. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and recipients will be awarded up to \$1,500 to cover or supplement the cost of the proposed professional development activities.

Funding Restrictions

- Funding must be used for the purpose detailed in the application, and excess funds will not be disbursed.
- Funding may not be used for the purpose of presenting research at a conference.
- Professional development opportunities which directly overlap with those already offered at Boston University are not eligible for funding. For instance, students interested in developing computer programming skills should first consult the trainings currently offered by Research Computing Services.
- Grant recipients may only receive one award during the duration of their program.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be assessed using the following selection criteria:

- Value of the professional development activity and the unique opportunity it affords beyond what is currently offered on campus
- Alignment between the professional development opportunity and the candidate's background and goals
- Potential impact of the activity on the candidate's research, future career, and/or the wider BU community
- Financial need

Professional Development Grant Application

Name _____

Email _____

Department _____

Faculty Advisor _____

Would you be able to take part in this opportunity without this award (e.g., by accessing other sources of funding)? (Yes/No) If no, please provide a brief explanation.

CV/Resume (attach)

Summary and Value of the Professional Development Opportunity

In 500 words or less, please address the following:

- *Description of the professional development activity—What type of activity is it (workshop, class, etc.)? Where and when will it take place, and what are the costs associated with it? What content will be covered?*
- *Value of the activity— What value does this opportunity present that is different from what is currently available at BU?*
- *Alignment with current work and goals—How does this opportunity build upon your current work and experiences? In what ways does it align with your professional goals?*
- *Impact of the activity—How would participating in this activity affect your research, your future career, and/or the BU community?*