Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies

Graduate Winter Funding

I. General Information

PIIRS welcomes applications for graduate funding for pre-dissertation and dissertation research.

Pre-dissertation or dissertation research can be conducted during the winter recess in the following areas: preliminary archival reconnaissance, field-site investigations, interviews, securing official permission for research sites, and other activities that will ensure a successful dissertation.

PIIRS funding is only for research abroad, not for research in the U.S.

Funding may also be available for graduate students who have almost completed their dissertation fieldwork but require a short, additional trip to complete their research. Priority for PIIRS funding will be given to students who apply for external financial support. Please consult the PIIRS Graduate Funding website for a list of external grants for which you may be eligible.

To apply for funding from PIIRS, applicants must complete the Funding Application found on SAFE by October 15, 2021. You must also complete the PIIRS External Funding form, which summarizes any efforts to secure funding from agencies outside Princeton (http://piirs.princeton.edu/research-funding/graduate-research). The PIIRS external funding form must be received by e-mail at jpanter@princeton.edu by October 15, 2021.

All applications to PIIRS must supply detailed, itemized budgets justifying projected costs. PIIRS funds are limited (with the size of grants normally being in the $1000-$3000 range). Therefore, in putting together your budget, please detail all other sources of funding—both those already secured and those being requested outside of PIIRS (including from other Princeton programs).

II. Application Guidelines for Pre-Dissertation and Dissertation Research Funding

For pre-Generals students, PIIRS welcomes sound proposals for pre-dissertation research abroad from graduate students who plan to write a dissertation on a topic related to regional or international studies.

For enrolled post-Generals students whose dissertation prospectus has been approved, PIIRS supports research during the academic year/summer. For graduate students entering DCE status, PIIRS supports research only during the academic year/summer prior to entering DCE status.

Application Specifics: Complete the Funding Application on SAFE. The application should include a statement of no more than 700 words (approximately 2 pages) that details the central idea of the dissertation, work accomplished to date, and precisely what the applicant expects to learn during the research period. Be as specific as possible: provide names of all archives, interviewees, and field sites, and summarize the contribution this research trip will make to (a) the selection of dissertation research sites (b) the ability to apply/compete for external grants following this initiative; and (c) the completion
of the thesis itself. In addition, you must also provide a detailed budget with a specific explanation of how each of the projected costs was calculated. You will be directed on the application site as to how to submit this information.

One letter of recommendation must be submitted.

III. What Costs Are Potentially Covered?

Costs Supported:

- Costs allowed for research: room and board at the offsite location, food, travel expenses (both airfare to and from the offsite location and transportation within the offsite location), and direct research-related costs (excluding those listed below).

Costs Not Supported:

- Living expenses in Princeton if the student is residing elsewhere.
- Funding normally excludes the cost of incidentals/books/copying costs/cell phones/laundry, etc.

IV. Travel during the COVID-19 pandemic

Travel accommodations should not be booked until funding has been awarded. All travel must be within University guidelines. Travel to some destinations may require GSS clearance.