

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT AWARD CRITERIA

Funds are available to support activities that enhance graduate students' research projects. These funds are provided by the Office of the Vice President for Research and administered by the Graduate School and are available to support research activities including travel to participate in workshops, data collection, short courses and extramural laboratory rotations. Under special circumstances, funding requests to purchase supplies/materials relevant to the student's research will be considered. Research Enhancement funding is only for graduate students enrolled in a degree program. These funds are not available to purchase equipment. Unlike graduate assistantships, these fellowships do not provide student health insurance or tuition/fee waivers.

Send the following to The Graduate School, 466 W. Circle Dr, Chittenden Hall:

1. The attached Request for Research Enhancement funding application **COMPLETELY** filled out and listing:
 - A summary of cost sharing with the student's major professor, department and college.
 - Whether or not these units provide funding, an endorsement of the request from the major professor, department and college is still required.
 - Requests must be accompanied by an endorsement from the major professor/advisor stating that the student is making satisfactory progress in his/her graduate program. You are to use the attached application to provide this information.
2. The application must be accompanied by a brief letter from the student indicating the following:
 - The title of the research project
 - A description of the student's research project written in a way that is understandable to scholars/scientists outside the field
 - A summary of the proposed research activities including travel information if relevant (dates and location)
 - Description of how this activity enhances the student's research project
 - Detailed budget and budget justification
 - IACUC or Human Research Protection Program approval letter if the research involves human or animal (IACUC) subjects.
3. International Travel Insurance:
 - If your travel is international your **department** must complete a pre-trip travel authorization for you and you need to register your trip in the International Travelers Abroad Database (<https://travelregistry.msu.edu>). When that is done, you will be automatically enrolled for international travel insurance (provided by HTH Worldwide) at no cost to you.



**The Graduate
School**

Chittenden Hall
466 W. Circle Dr. East
Lansing MI
48824-1044

517-353-3220
Fax: 517-353-3355
grad.msu.edu

Criteria for graduate student research award

- Enhancement awards are intended to match/supplement funds provided by advisors, units and colleges and will range from \$500-\$1000.
- Only one request per student/tenure in degree program will be considered.
- Student must be registered in the semester the funding is awarded.
- There is no deadline for submitting requests.
- The Graduate School will make decisions on support within three weeks after receiving all of the necessary materials.
- Award letters will be emailed.

PLEASE NOTE: If you have Stafford or other needs-based loans/aid, the amount of your fellowship award may cause a reduction of your loan(s) or other financial aid. You still may wish to consider the fellowship as this will reduce your total loan debt at graduation. Please seek advice from your Office of Financial Aid counselor before you turn down a fellowship. However, if the award is for travel or research support, please provide a copy of the meeting registration form, airline ticket price, hotel costs, etc. to the Office of Financial Aid and indicate that the funds should **not** be subtracted from your loan/aid amount. However, final decisions are made on a case-by-case basis by the Office of Financial Aid following guidelines provided by the Federal Government.



**Research Enhancement Award REQUEST TO THE
GRADUATE SCHOOL**
Associate Dean for Graduate Affairs Office

Michigan State University
466 W Circle Drive
Chittenden Hall
East Lansing, MI 48824
Phone: 517.353.3220
Fax: 517.353.3355

SHARED FUNDING AND ENDORSMENT FOR:

Date: _____

(Print) Student Name: _____ Student Number: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Department: _____ College: _____

Gender: Male Female Citizenship: US Int'l Ethnicity (Optional): _____

Current Graduate Program Enrollment: Master's Doctoral Professional (Medical)

***Attach the specific funding request letter from the student.**

Unlike graduate assistantships, these fellowships do not provide student health insurance or tuition/fee waivers.

The above student is making satisfactory progress towards his/her degree.

(Print) Major Professor

Signature of Major Professor

A Signature is required from the major professor, the department chair, and the college even if they have no funds available to support this request. Individual departments and colleges may request additional information from the applicants.

FUNDING SOURCE	NAME AND E-Mail ADDRESS (Print or Type)	SIGNATURE	ACCOUNT#	AMT FROM SOURCE
Major Professor				\$
Department/Unit Chair				\$
College Dean/Associate Dean				\$
Other (specify)				\$
TOTAL:				\$
FUNDS REQUESTED FROM THE GRADUATE SCHOOL:				\$

Graduate School Funds

Disapproved _____

Approved _____

Notification of award decision will be emailed to Student, Professor, Chair's office and Dean's office, please make sure to include the email addresses in the space provided. Thank you.

INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

For international travel insurance: Your **department** must complete a pre-trip travel authorization for you and you need to register your trip in the International Travelers Abroad Database (<https://travelregistry.msu.edu>). When that is done, you will be automatically enrolled for international medical insurance and evacuation coverage (provided by HTH Worldwide) at no cost to you when traveling on University business or as a part of official University programs.

The HTH Worldwide insurance product for non-study abroad international travelers is called “GeoBlue Traveler”. Since many travelers feel more comfortable with an ID card in their hands that is easily accomplished by going to www.geo-blue.com and clicking on “Register” (**the MSU Group Access Code is: QHG9999MSUBT**). This step will enable travelers to print their ID card in advance, review HTH’s large network of global medical providers, look at claim procedures and become familiar with the online and mobile tools available to them. If travelers would like to purchase separate travel coverage at their own expense for an accompanying spouse or dependents, they can get a quote through HTH Worldwide at www.hthtravelinsurance.com or by calling 1-888-243-2358.

To protect health, travelers should also verify whether they need preventive vaccinations or medications that are recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization. Certain vaccinations may be required by destination countries. The Travel Clinic located in Olin Health Center can provide these services, as does the Ingham County Health Department and other Travel clinics outside of the Mid-Michigan area.

In case of an emergency, the first step in the notification process is always for the traveler in need to call the **24/7 International Assistance Line at 1-517-353-3784**. Once the call is received, the MSU International emergency response structure is activated to provide the appropriate resources.