

Doctoral Dissertation Completion Awards

Limited funding is available to support outstanding doctoral candidates who provide strong evidence for successful completion of their dissertation and defense in the semester of the award.

Eligibility: Doctoral candidates entering their final semester. Applications should be submitted prior to student's final semester.

Nominator: Department Chair or Director of Graduate Studies

Award: Stipend, candidacy fee and health insurance

Duration of award: Awards are provided for one semester, but refer to the required Statement of Program Commitment below.

Criteria: Strong evidence of scholarly ability and program progress plus a detailed plan for completion within the semester agreed upon by student, mentor and committee.

Student commitment: Students must be engaged in full time dissertation and defense work. Students awarded Doctoral Dissertation Completion Awards shall have no other duties or obligations beyond those of the academic program, and are also precluded from other work for compensation while supported by the award.

The application must include:

- 1. A statement of program commitment:** The department Chair **must** confirm in writing a commitment to subsequent funding for one additional semester should the student not graduate in the semester of the award, and a commitment to supplement the student's stipend if the award doesn't match the program's current stipend level.
- 2. A letter of evaluation:** The nominator must explain why the student is deserving of this award. The letter should address the student's scholarly ability and program progress that provides strong evidence the student will defend within the semester of the award. Priority for awards will be given to students who will be released from other service/assistantship obligations that may distract them from completing the dissertation.
- 3. Student's c.v. or resume**
- 4. A detailed plan for completion:** The student must provide a detailed plan for completion that is agreed upon by the mentor and committee.

Calls for nominations will be publicized each semester prior to the semester of funding. Questions may be directed to Paul DeMarco, Associate Dean: paul.demarco@louisville.edu,