

The College of Nursing Research Fund

Application Guidelines for Doctoral Dissertation Grants

Purpose: This fund is designed to support doctoral dissertation research of students at Rush University, College of Nursing.

Submission Deadline: **October 1 and March 1**

Application Length: Five single spaced pages (not including abstract, facilities and resources, references, biosketches, and appendices), half-inch margins all around, 11 Arial font.

Budget: The award limit is \$2,500. Only expenses essential to the conduct of the proposed research will be funded. Prohibited expenses include: purchase of personal computers; educational assistance such as tuition and textbooks; travel or per diem to present papers or posters; and conference registration. Travel only as related to carrying out this research proposal. Any equipment purchased from this fund remains the property of Rush University College of Nursing.

Length of Awards: The grant period is 18 months.

IRB: IRB approval must be obtained prior to receiving funding.

Eligibility: The doctoral student must be a student at the College of Nursing, Rush University and have an accepted doctoral dissertation research proposal.

Steps in the Application Process:

There are no application forms for the College of Nursing Research Fund with the exception of budget forms. Guidelines and review criteria are listed below. Students needing consultation and/or support related to proposal preparation should contact Darlene Chatmon-Dudley, Grants Specialist, by email at Darlene_Dudley-Chatmon@rush.edu

Preparation and Forms

- The student(s) is advised to set up an appointment with their dissertation chair to discuss the proposal prior to submission.
- The student(s) **must** schedule a consultation meeting with Darlene Chatmon-Dudley to discuss budget and budget justification development. A ***Budget Information Form*** must be completed prior to meeting with Ms. Chatmon-Dudley.

Components of the Application (items 2 and 3 = 5 single-spaced pages maximum):

1. Abstract briefly describing the study (limit 300 words) and listing the PI and committee members.
2. Specific Aims: state the overall objective or long-term goal of the proposed research; the specific aims/purposes; and the research questions and/or hypotheses addressed by the proposal.
3. Research strategy
 - Significance, Innovation: review the most significant previous work and current status of research in the field related to the problem under investigation. Identify interrelationships of the purpose, literature, and variables. Identify how your study will fill knowledge gaps. Describe the theoretical significance of the proposed research and its potential for nursing application. Address the innovation of the proposed research.
 - A statement of how this study will inform the next grant application.

- Methods (design, sampling design, subjects and setting, measures, procedures, data analysis)
- Limitations and strengths in methods
- Timeline
- 4. Facilities and resources that support the study
- 5. References
- 6. Appendices (e.g., measures, letters of support from dissertation chair and sites involved in data collection, other supporting documents)
- 7. NIH biosketch including a personal statement for student and dissertation chair
- 8. Budget and budget justification by category (equipment, supplies, other expenses)

Submission of Application:

- Submit the grant via email attachment to Darlene Chatmon-Dudley. The student must have signed approval from his/her advisor before submitting the application.
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Review Process and Criteria:

Your application will be confidentially reviewed by three faculty members, at least two of whom will be from the College of Nursing. Scientific merit will be based on the following criteria:

- Clarity and appropriateness of the specific aims;
- Significance and innovation of the study;
- Quality of the literature review (e.g., clearly/concisely synthesized, degree to which it supports the proposed study);
- Approach (e.g., clarity and feasibility of the proposed methods; congruence among the aims, theoretical framework, methods, and analysis; appropriate sampling design; identification of the key variables; clarity of procedures; appropriateness of analytic plan); and
- The budget will be reviewed for its adequacy and the degree to which the costs are sufficiently justified.

Post Award Requirements:

- If funded, the PI agrees that he/she is responsible for monitoring the research budget and ensuring that expenditures do not exceed the amount allocated for the award.
- Students must meet with Darlene-Chatmon-Dudley once an award is made to discuss budget management and learn how to read the monthly budget reports.
- The PI must agree that all publications and presentations derived from the study acknowledge the source of support (i.e., Rush University College of Nursing Research Fund).
- A one page summary with results should be submitted at the end of grant support. Extensions beyond 18 months require written approval by the Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

The Office of Research and Scholarship

JoEllen Wilbur, Associate Dean for Research and Scholarship, 312-942-8947

Darlene Chatmon-Dudley, Grants Specialist, 312-942-8754

Lou Fogg, Statistician, 312-942-6953

The Research & Clinical Trials Office, 312-942-2-5498