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Maryemma Graham
University Distinguished Professor
Department of English

Damon Talbott
Program Coordinator
Office of Graduate Studies
Categories and Approximate Number of Fellowships

Predoctoral Fellowship *(Pre)*: 60 awards

Dissertation Fellowship *(Diss)*: 36 awards

Postdoctoral Fellowship *(Post)*: 20 awards
Your Qualifications

How does your research and/or your career goals fit in with the Ford Foundation Fellowship Program’s mission?

“Through its Fellowship Programs, the Ford Foundation seeks to increase the diversity of the nation’s college and university faculties by increasing their ethnic and racial diversity, to maximize the educational benefits of diversity, and to increase the number of professors who can and will use diversity as a resource for enriching the education of all students.”
Universal Eligibility Requirements

• Be a U.S. citizen or U.S. national

• Demonstrate superior academic achievement

• Demonstrate commitment to teaching and research at a college or university level

• Commitment to fulfilling the Ford Foundation’s Program Goals
Specific Eligibility Requirements

• Be enrolled *(or planning to enroll)* in a PhD or ScD program for the fall 2016 semester *(Pre) (Diss)*

• Require at least 3 years of study *(Pre)*

• Not have earned a prior doctoral degree *(Pre) (Diss)*

• Finish the dissertation during the 2016-2017 academic year, but no later than the Fall semester of 2017 *(Diss)*

• Have received the PhD or ScD degree no earlier than 11/30/08 and no later than 11/13/15 *(Post)*
Eligible Fields of Study

American studies, anthropology, archaeology, art and theater history, astronomy, chemistry, communications, computer science, cultural studies, earth sciences, economics, engineering, ethnic studies, ethnomusicology, geography, history, international relations, language, life sciences, linguistics, literature, mathematics, performance studies, philosophy, physics, political science, psychology, religious studies, sociology, urban planning, and women’s studies.

Interdisciplinary ethnic studies programs, such as African American studies and Native American studies, and other interdisciplinary programs, such as area studies, peace studies, and social justice.

*Education* please see the Ford website’s FAQ and 2015 Program Announcements for detailed explanation of the eligibility of certain types of education degrees.
Ineligible Fields of Study

The following practice-oriented programs are not supported, as well as the degrees listed on the right:

- Ed.D.
- D.F.A.
- Psy.D.
- M.D.
- J.D.

administration, audiology, business, consumer studies, curriculum development, education policy, human resource management, exercise physiology, filmmaking, fine arts, guidance, kinesiology, leadership, library and information science, management, nursing, occupational health, performing arts, personnel, physical education, physical therapy, public health, rehabilitation science, speech pathology, social welfare, social work, and teacher education
Selection Criteria

Membership in one or more of the following groups whose underrepresentation in the American professoriate has been severe and longstanding:

- Alaska Natives (Aleut, Eskimo or other Indigenous People of Alaska)
- Black/African Americans
- Mexican Americans/Chicanas/Chicanos
- Native American Indians
- Native Pacific Islanders (Hawaiian/Polynesian/Micronesian)
- Puerto Rican

- Evidence of superior academic achievement
- Degree of promise of continuing achievement as scholars and teachers
- Capacity to respond in pedagogically productive ways to the learning needs of students from diverse backgrounds
- Sustained personal engagement with communities that are underrepresented in the academy and an ability to bring this asset to learning, teaching, and scholarship at the college and university level
- Likelihood of using the diversity of human experience as an educational resource in teaching and scholarship
Predoctoral Stipend and Benefits

- Annual stipend: $24,000

- Three years of stipends within a five year window (i.e. allows for deferrals)

- Expenses paid to attend at least one Conference of Ford Fellows, which includes professional development workshops, networking opportunities, access to book presses, paper and poster presentations, and more

- Access to Ford Fellows Liaisons, “a network of former Ford Fellows who have volunteered to provide mentoring and support to current fellows.”
Dissertation Stipend and Benefits

• One-year stipend: $25,000

• Expenses paid to attend one Conference of Ford Fellows

• Access to Ford Fellow Liaisons
Postdoctoral Stipend and Benefits

• One-year Stipend: $45,000

• The stipend may be supplemented by sabbatical leave pay/other sources of support that do not carry teaching/other responsibilities

• Expenses paid to attend one Conference of Ford Fellows

• Access to Ford Fellow Liaisons
## Deadlines

Build a Timeline based on Application Deadlines

ALL DEADLINES CLOSE AT 5:00 PM EST

**Warning:** Fellowship websites often crash near the deadline

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Submission Materials – All Applications

• Contact information normally found on CV/Resume

• List of honors, awards, employment, publications, etc.

• Statement of Previous Research

• Personal Statement

• Four letters of reference

• Transcript(s)
Predoctoral Specific Submission Materials

In addition, *predoctoral* applicants need to submit the following:

- Essay proposing plan of graduate study and research AND long-term career goals
- Verification of Predoctoral Status Form
- GRE Scores (if not yet admitted, optional)

“The panels will use academic records, essays, letters of recommendation, the application itself, and other appropriate materials as the basis for determining the extent to which candidates meet the eligibility requirements and the selection criteria. Review panels may also look at additional factors such as the suitability of the proposed institution for the applicant’s plan of graduate study and the likelihood that they will require a minimum of three years to complete their Ph.D./Sc.D. study as of the 2016 fall semester.”
Dissertation Specific Submission Materials

In addition, dissertation applicants need to submit the following:

• Annotated Bibliography
• Dissertation Abstract
• Essay proposing dissertation completion plan/timeline AND long-term career plans
• Verification of Doctoral Degree Candidacy

“The panels will use academic records, essays, letters of recommendation, the application itself, and other appropriate materials as the basis for determining the extent to which candidates meet the eligibility requirements and the selection criteria. Review panels may also look at additional factors such as whether the applicant has advanced to dissertation candidacy and will fully utilize 9 to 12 months of fellowship support prior to receiving the Ph.D. or Sc.D.”
"Postdoctoral Specific Submission Materials"

In addition, postdoctoral applicants need to submit the following:

- Essay proposing plan of research AND long-term career goals
- Annotated Bibliography
- Dissertation Abstract
- Abstract of Proposed Plan of Research
- Name & contact information for host mentor
- Host letter stating willingness of mentor and research site to serve as applicant’s host

“The panels will use academic records, essays, letters of recommendation, the application itself, and other appropriate materials as the basis for determining the extent to which candidates meet the eligibility requirements and the selection criteria. The quality of the plan of study or research, the bibliography, the appropriateness of the proposed fellowship activities, the choice of host institution, and the potential for career enhancement will also be carefully reviewed.”
Issues to Consider When Writing Your Essays

• How your project relates to the Ford Foundation’s interests & goals

• How your research will benefit society

• How your project is innovative and will contribute to the scholarship in your field

• Pay attention to their rules & criteria – for example, the essay proposing plans of study/research: maximum 2 pages, double-spaced, and they want you to *avoid technical jargon*.

Tips for Writing the Proposed Plan of Research/Study

• Explain how you would expect the completion of the plan to further your career in higher education and help you contribute to your field

• Predoctoral Applicants: Explain the “suitability” between the proposed institution and your study plan

• Dissertation Applicants: Demonstrate “the likelihood that the applicant will fully utilize 9 to 12 months of support”

• Postdoctoral Applicants: Explain how your choice of host institution will enhance your plan

• Include timeline for project completion
Tips for Writing the Personal Statement

• Describe past and ongoing community service

• Describe campus-based student activities or involvement in professional organizations that serve the community

• Discuss your teaching methods and/or academic interests that are inclusive of diversity

• Discuss employment that demonstrates a long-standing commitment to diversity and a multicultural society

• Discuss efforts to improve access and opportunity for all
Developing Your Application

• Download the 2016 Program Announcement and Fact Sheet for the fellowship you will apply – read carefully and follow their rules and criteria: http://sites.nationalacademies.org/pga/fordfellowships/

• Consult your faculty advisor on the content and format of your essays; share drafts with your reference letter writers

• KU Writing Center: http://www.writing.ku.edu/

• Hall Center for the Humanities Grant Development Office: http://hallcenter.ku.edu/humanities-grant-development-office

• Institute for Policy and Social Research Grant Writers: http://ipsr.dept.ku.edu/
Thank you for coming!

Please fill out your evaluation form

Damon Talbott, Ph.D.
Program Coordinator
Graduate Studies
dtalbott@ku.edu