

**Literacy Research Center and Clinic**

**Fisher Advancement of Literacy Doctoral Research Grant**

This doctoral research grant is a competitive grant of up to $5,000.00 offered through the generosity of Donne and Sue Fisher. Each year, one grant is awarded. The grant is established to support dissertation research focused on literacy development, processes, and/or instruction.

**Eligibility**

* All applicants must be engaging in dissertation research focused on literacy development, processes, and/or instruction.
* All applicants must be doctoral level students in the College of Education at the University of Wyoming.
* All applicants must be doctoral candidates with committee-approved comprehensive exams.
* Proposals must be submitted electronically by January 15th.
* ***Proposals that are incomplete, late, or not in compliance with the guidelines will not be eligible for the grant.***
* Funds will *only be dispersed* once the doctoral candidate has an approved dissertation prospectus.
* ***Funds must be used within two years of the award date***.

**How to Apply**

In preparing the proposal, adhere explicitly to the following guidelines:

* DO NOT include your name or any other personal information that will identify you on any part of the proposal (other than the cover page). The review is conducted as a blind-review.
* Do not exceed the maximum character count requirements. Please note that spaces and punctuation are included in the total count.
* Make sure to complete all editing before submitting your proposal; you will not be able to edit your proposal once it has been submitted.
* The cover-page & advisor contact information should be sent in separate documents
* Complete proposals will be emailed to Anaya Yates at [ayates6@uwyo.edu](mailto:ayates6@uwyo.edu).

**Cover Letter**

The cover letter should include the following information:

* First and last name, department affiliation, and anticipated degree
* A short title
* A short abstract (150 words maximum; method, including the specific research methods to be use; and significance)
* Requested amount (US $5,000.00 maximum)
* Grade/age levels that research will cover

**Proposal**

***Research Description***

Your research description should include the following information as a blinded copy (***with* *no identifying information—proposals that are not blind will be disqualified***):

* Full doctoral dissertation title (150 characters maximum)
* Abstract of your approved dissertation prospectus (15,000 characters maximum). This abstract must include your research question(s); the purposes and goals of your research project, including what populations will benefit and in what ways; the relationship between your work and related work in the field; a discussion of the theoretical lens or lenses you are using in your work and a description of your methodology; a description of how the grant will be used to support the research.
* Proposed start date (mm/dd/yyyy)
* Proposed end date (mm/dd/yyyy)
* A detailed timeline for the project (5,000 characters maximum)

***Bibliography***

Reference work should be cited in the proposal using current APA guidelines. To accommodate the blind review, if the applicant’s own publications are cited, please substitute the word “Author” in the citations (e.g., Author, 2015). (5,000 characters maximum)

***Budget***

Describe and explain the rationale for each budget line item including the amount that will be used for your project. (200 characters maximum for each item)

* Personnel
* Materials
* Travel
* Computer
* Office Expenses
* Clerical Support
* Other
* Sources of outside project-related funding (if any)
* Total Project Budget

**Advisor Contact Information and Recommendation** (not included in blind review process)

Provide contact information for a major advisor who will sponsor your proposal.

Attach a letter from your major advisor. The letter should include:

* The applicant’s name
* A brief rationale to why the grant should be awarded
* A statement affirming that the student’s dissertation proposal has been approved by her/his entire committee and that the dissertation research is in the early stages
* A statement indicating that funds will be used to support this research

**Submission of the Proposal**

All proposals are submitted via email to Anaya Yates at [ayates6@uwyo.edu](mailto:ayates6@uwyo.edu). Attachments should include: cover letter, blinded proposal, and advisor contact information with reference letter. The applicant will be notified by email of proposal receipt.

**Review Procedures and Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be reviewed by the LRCC Research Advisory Panel; the panel is comprised of literacy scholars external to UW. A blind review process will be conducted; each proposal will be reviewed by three LRCC Research Advisory Panel members. Decisions will be based on the quality of the dissertation proposal, relevance to the intention of the grant, and the quality of supporting materials. Recommendations for funding will be made to the Executive Director of the Literacy Research Center and Clinic. Finally, decisions will be based on the reviewers’ recommendations *in concert with* the recommendation of the student’s advisor.

Recipients of the grant are required to submit a report to the Executive Director within one year of the receipt of the grant. Reports should be emailed to Anaya Yates at [ayates6@uwyo.edu](mailto:ayates6@uwyo.edu). The report should outline progress toward execution or completion of the research, findings to date, and briefly explain how the funding was expended. The report should also include any conference proceedings or publications that have resulted from the work.

***Proposal Review***

Criteria Weight

1. Significance of the Research Question 4
2. Rationale for the Research 4
3. Adequacy of the Methods 5
4. Implications for Practice and Research 2
5. Clarity and Specificity 5

Criteria will be ranked from 1 (low) to 5 (high) then multiplied by the corresponding weights listed above for a total possible point value of 100.

*Please direct any questions about your proposal or your grant to Dana Robertson at* [drober36@uwyo.edu](mailto:drober36@uwyo.edu) *or your doctoral dissertation chair.*