

FASS Graduate Student Research Assistant Awards:

In the unique context of COVID-19, the Research Development Committee is allocating funding to graduate student research assistant awards with the goal of supporting both faculty members whose research productivity has been negatively impacted by COVID-19 and graduate students who are facing serious financial difficulties.

Faculty members can apply for an RA position of \$1000 to hire a graduate student as a research assistant for a total of 50 hours (the equivalent of \$20.00 per hour. The awards will be paid to graduate students as stipends rather than an hourly wage, but we want to ensure equity in the numbers of hours that RAs are expected to work for the award.

Adjudication of the applications will prioritize proposals that a) promise to enable FASS faculty members who have been seriously impacted by COVID-19 to make up for some of their lost productivity, b) could be allocated to graduate students in particularly serious financial need to support projects that could be performed by a range of students, and c) support first-time applicants.

Eligibility: Faculty members holding a full-time appointment at Dalhousie University with a primary appointment in FASS. Although the preference would be to distribute these awards widely, an individual faculty member can hold more than one award if the funds are available. *Student RAs must be currently enrolled in a FASS graduate program.*

Deadlines: June 15, 2021; Oct. 15, 2021; and January 15, 2022. Email a single PDF (if possible) of the completed form below along with all requested materials to paulette.chiasson@dal.ca . Applications will be evaluated by the Associate Dean Research and the Research Development Committee.

Adjudication criteria:

1) Indication that the research productivity of the faculty member has been negatively impacted by COVID-19; 2) Indication that the RA project is viable and will contribute to the enhanced research productivity of the faculty member; 3) Evidence that the RA project can be carried out by March 31, 2022; 4) Evidence that the RA position could be allocated to a range of possible students based on financial need in addition to research capacity; and 5) Evidence that the faculty applicant is research active.

Successful faculty applicants will be expected to send the RA notice to the graduate program email list for their department and/or other relevant departments and have an open search among all eligible graduate students.

Successful applicants will also be expected to submit a one-paragraph statement on the work completed by the RA.

The funds will be managed by the Dean's Office.

Application for FASS Graduate Student Research Assistant Stipend

1. An identification page with:

- a) Applicant Name and Rank:
- b) Banner #:
- c) Department:
- d) Email address:
- e) Project title:
- f) A brief statement (a sentence or two is fine) on how COVID-19 has affected your research.
- g) A statement about whether or not this is a first-time application to this graduate RA fund.
- h) If this work is subject to ethics approval, a statement that the project has been approved by the REB.

2. A maximum one-page description of the project, outlining: the goals of the project; the viability of the project and its contribution to the research productivity of the faculty member; the timeline for completion of the RA work; and the specific tasks to be completed by the RA.

3. A maximum one-page list of recent research contributions and (where applicable) research grants.

Research accountability statement (adapted from the Research Services statement of Nov 2016):

By signing this form, I acknowledge and accept my responsibility to do the following, to the best of my knowledge and ability:

1. Undertake the project in accordance with ethical, medical, and scientific standards
2. Comply with University policies, regulations, and procedures as applicable to the project, including but not limited to Scholarly Misconduct Policy, Policy on Conflict of Interest, Policy on the Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans, Environmental Health and Safety Orientation Policy, Prohibited Discrimination Policy, Accommodation Policy, Personal Harassment Policy, and Sexual Harassment Policy. See https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies.html#
3. Comply with all applicable policies and procedures of Dalhousie Payroll and Information Services and be responsible for the following:
 - a) setting the terms and conditions of employment for all persons hired to work on the Project, including benefits and remuneration;
 - b) directing and supervising the student employee
4. Inform the RA of the terms and conditions of any other grants used to fund the project and, where appropriate, have them acknowledge in writing any conditions with respect to publications, confidentiality, and intellectual property.

Signature: _____ Date: _____