



2025 Duke Brazil Initiative (DBI) Student and Faculty Research Grants Application Deadline: Friday March 21, 2025

The Duke Brazil Initiative (DBI) is offering a limited number of research grants for projects focused on Brazil. We particularly encourage proposals that align with ongoing activities or DBI signature initiatives – social mobility and education, energy and environment, arts and curation, public health, anti-racism, and culture – although new ideas from any discipline are welcome.

Applications are invited from Duke University faculty, graduate and professional school students, and undergraduate students. Priority will be given to projects that involve collaboration with Brazilian institutions and scholars, or which lead to student participation in or the writing of senior honors theses, master's projects, or doctoral dissertations. Basic to intermediate Portuguese language is preferred. If you do not speak Portuguese or another language of Brazil, you will be required to show how your proposed research can still be conducted successfully.

What is the award amount? When should the research take place?

The awards will range from \$500 to \$2,000 depending on number of awards and available budget. Recipients are expected to travel to Brazil for a minimum of 12 days during Summer 2025.

Note about research involving human subjects

For faculty and students whose proposed research involves human subjects, you are required to obtain approval of your research from the Institutional Review Board. Grant funds will not be released until the DBI receives proof that this is taken care of. No exceptions. Please consult with the Office of Research Support about the policies concerning research with human subjects at Duke University. Information can be found <https://campusirb.duke.edu/>. **Be aware that this process can take many weeks. We recommend that you do not wait for your award notification to begin the IRB process.**

Note regarding Duke Travel Policy

For all students and faculty, you are strongly encouraged to consult Duke's travel policy at [Global Travel Policy | Global Administrative and Travel Support | Duke](#). If you are selected for an award, the DBI must receive proof that all international travel has been registered and approved by this office before tickets can be purchased or funds released.

How to apply

- 1) Submit a complete proposal in one Word document by March 21, 2025 to patrick.semmler@duke.edu.
- 2) Within one month after the research trip submit a 4-5 page summary of research to the DBI.
- 3) Assist in extending Duke's visibility within Brazil and among Brazilians abroad.
- 4) Applicants are required to apply to other sources of funding.

What to include in the proposal

- 1) Completed application form.
- 2) Narrative up to 750 words detailing the research or academic, pedagogical, or artistic project and why the Brazil grant is important to achieve these goals and explaining the rationale for the project and its participants.
- 3) A proposed budget (allowable expenses include international airfare, in-country travel, lodging and meals for the Duke grant recipient only).
- 4) 1-2 page bibliography relevant to the project.
- 5) A list of potential institutional partners and/or personal contacts in Brazil is highly encouraged with some discussion of why in-person research in Brazil is needed and how you intend to pursue this project after you return from Brazil.
- 6) Duke participant CV resumé.
- 7) An official transcript of your record at Duke that includes Fall 2024 grades (for student applicants).
- 8) Letter of recommendation from a faculty mentor (for student applicants).

All proposal materials, with the exception of the letter of recommendation, must be submitted in one Word or PDF attachment as First name_Last name_DBI_Grant.

All application materials must be submitted by the March 21, 2025 deadline, including the letter of recommendation. It can be sent by e-mail from recommender (be sure to label the subject line to clearly indicate that it is a letter of recommendation and the name of the applicant being recommended. **Late materials and letters will not be considered.**

Submit all materials to patrick.semmler@duke.edu.

The Duke Brazil Initiative (DBI) is co-sponsored by the Duke Office of Global Affairs and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

Website: <https://latinamericancaribbean.duke.edu/programs/duke-brazil-initiative/>