

**SUMMER - FALL 2025 GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS  
CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN STUDIES, DUKE UNIVERSITY  
APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

***Application Deadline: Friday, March 21, 2025***

The Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies is pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of Graduate Student Research Grants for the summer and fall of 2025 (note that while this funding is typically used in summer and fall, if you need to conduct your research in winter or spring of 2025 you should apply now; there is only one competition per year). The grants support short periods (two weeks or more) of research in Latin America and the Caribbean by outstanding graduate and professional school students in the social sciences, humanities and natural sciences at Duke. Funding for this year's competition is provided by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the John Hope Franklin Center.

The Graduate Student Research Grants are primarily intended to provide graduate and professional school students with the opportunity to deepen their disciplinary interests on any country of Latin America and the Caribbean. The awards will allow recipients to assess future research sites and determine the focus and feasibility of the dissertation prospectus. In some cases, research for master's theses or other culminating projects will also be supported. *Grantees are encouraged to use this opportunity to develop ties with institutions, organizations and individuals in the country they will study.*

**NOTE REGARDING SUMMER 2025:** 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](#). Also, be sure to keep an eye on the Restricted Regions List published by the Global Travel and Administrative Support Office, [Restricted Regions List \(RRL\) | Global Administrative and Travel Support | Duke](#), and consult with the staff of the Global Travel and Administrative Support Office. If you are selected for an award, CLACS must receive proof that all international travel has been registered and approved by this office before tickets can be purchased or funds released.

Feel free to contact us with any questions about allowable expenses prior to application submission. **Awards are generally in the \$500-\$1,500 range, depending on number of awards and available budget.**

All disbursements will be made according to Duke University procedures. The competition is open to applicants of all nationalities -- there are no citizenship requirements.

To apply for a Graduate Student Research Grant, please submit the following documents:

- (1) A completed Graduate Student Research Grants Application Form (attached);
- (2) A brief (up to three pages, double-spaced) plan of research including information on the following: a) topic and objectives of the research project; b) indication of the project's relevance to the applicant's discipline or field of study and to their own academic and career trajectory; c) ability to function in relevant foreign language as required by this research; d) ties with specific individuals and institutions in the host country; e) anticipated length of project; and f) the planned research agenda;
- (3) A statement on how the outcomes of the research will be shared with and benefit the collaborating community, as well as the ways in which this community will be actively involved in and contribute to the research process and its applications.

- (4) A one-page bibliography;
- (5) A proposed budget (allowable expenses include international airfare, in-country travel, lodging and meals for the graduate student applicant only);
- (6) A one-page *curriculum vitae*, an official transcript of your record at Duke that includes Fall 2024 grades, and a letter of recommendation from your graduate advisor or a faculty member familiar with your work. (Note that it is the student applicant's responsibility to be sure that your faculty advisor turns in the letter of recommendation on time.)

Applications are invited from Duke graduate and professional school students who work on Latin America and/or the Caribbean, in all disciplines. Previous grantees are eligible to apply; however, it should be noted that in most cases priority will be given to first-time applicants.

**Applicants should submit their application materials as e-mail attachments (Word or PDF) to Natalie Hartman, [njh@duke.edu](mailto:njh@duke.edu), on or before Friday, March 21, 2025.**

Late applications (including late letters of recommendation) **will not be considered**. The decisions of the selection committee will be announced by the end of April. Awards will be made on the basis of academic credentials, the quality of research proposals, and the candidates' eligibility. The amount of individual awards are generally in the \$500-\$2,000 range depending on number of awards made and available budget.

Grantees will be required to provide the Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies with a brief written description of field activities and a financial accounting within 30 days of completing the project. Grantees will also be required to provide a formal oral presentation of research activities during the year following the award period.

**Note about research involving human subjects:** For graduate and professional school students whose proposed research involves human subjects, you should be aware that it is necessary for you to obtain approval of your research from the Institutional Review Board. No grant funds can be released until CLACS 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 on the Office of Research Support web site at <https://campusirb.duke.edu/>. **Be aware that this process can take up to several weeks. Do not wait till you receive an award notification to begin the process.**

Feel free to contact Natalie Hartman, [njh@duke.edu](mailto:njh@duke.edu), with any questions.