

**MELLON UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS FOR SUMMER RESEARCH ON LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Application deadline: March 24, 2023

OVERVIEW

Funded by an endowment from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the awards provide opportunities for Duke undergraduates to complement course work with research experience on Latin America and the Caribbean (including Puerto Rico and the U.S.-Mexico border region).

The awards are open to all fields and subjects. Awards typically range from \$500 to \$2,000 per person.

Feel free to contact us with any questions about allowable expenses prior to application submission.

PROCESS

- 1) Applicants must submit a proposal for an academic research project on Latin America and/or the Caribbean. It is recommended that the research take place between May and August.
- 2) Proposals for work done in conjunction with a larger project directed by a faculty member and/or organized by a Duke research center or student group are eligible as long as there is a significant independent research component. Projects done in conjunction with an internship are also eligible. If you are planning a group project, each member of the group must apply individually, including separate application, supporting documentation and budget reflecting only your own research and costs.
- 3) Applicants must enlist a faculty sponsor with expertise in the country, topic, or methodology of the student's project. The sponsor will help the student develop a research program and establish contacts in the country to be studied, if appropriate.
- 4) The sponsor must meet with the student at least one week prior to the application deadline.

Applicants are encouraged to seek additional funding at Duke and elsewhere if necessary.

APPLICATION

A pdf copy of the application must be submitted electronically by the deadline to Miguel Rojas Sotelo, Ph.D., miguel.rojassotelo@duke.edu

A completed application must include:

- 1) Completed application form
- 2) a project statement of no more than three double-spaced pages of 12-point type; the statement should delineate the central issue or question of the project and any key subsidiary issues and questions; discuss how your project relates to research already done on related issues; outline

- 3) the methods and sources you will use to address your project's central issue(s) and question(s); explain the importance of the proposed topic, the project's feasibility, and its potential contribution to knowledge about the region;
- 4) one-page bibliography of sources relevant to proposed research
- 5) itemized budget and budget narrative
- 6) one-page resume and/or one-page, double-spaced autobiographical statement
- 7) official Duke transcript

KEEP IN MIND

- 1) **Note about research involving human subjects:** undergraduate 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. 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/>. Summer funding cycle deadlines are tight, so it is strongly recommended that you begin this process while applying and that you don't wait until award notification. No grant funds will be released until this approval has been obtained.
- 2) If a grantee's research subject changes, the student is obliged to contact CLACS, as funding would be contingent on review and acceptance of the new project.
- 3) Applicants must be enrolled at Duke in the semester following the field research experience.
- 4) After returning from the field, grantees will be required to provide CLACS with a written description and/or formal oral presentation of research activities.
- 5) **Note about Duke's Travel Policy:** If you are awarded a CLACS Summer Research Grant that involves travel, it will be necessary for you to complete all requirements for approval of your international travel in accordance with the current Duke travel policy and COVID-19 addendum, including via the Duke Travel Registry. The approval process is not automatic and can take time, so you are encouraged to begin this process at the time of application for the research grant. Do not wait until you receive an award notification. No funds can be released until the necessary registry and approval requirements have been fulfilled. This is a university rule. Please consult with Global Administrative Travel Support at globaltravel@duke.edu if you are considering research-related travel. The Duke Travel Registry can be found at <https://travel.duke.edu/registry>

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE AWARD COMPETITION, CONTACT Miguel Rojas Sotelo, Ph.D., miguel.rojassotelo@duke.edu