

Updated Call for Graduate/Postdoctoral Research and Virtual Conference Awards (20-21)

P&N has received generous support from the Charles Lafitte Foundation to support innovative research that engages P&N faculty, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and undergraduate students. Through this support, P&N can offer research grants and virtual conference awards to graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

NEW in 2021: Support for Research Projects

We anticipate funding both small research grants (up to \$2000 apiece) and large research grants (up to \$5000 apiece), with the number of awards depending on the amounts requested. We will be adopting the following guidelines for grant applications:

- Projects can be led by a single student / fellow or by a team, but at least one of the students/fellows needs to have a primary appointment in P&N (see eligibility criteria below).
- Grants can be used for most types of expenses associated with online research. For example, funds can be requested for expenses associated with running research subjects, for software or for research materials, etc. However, personal laptops will not be supported. Any grant rebudgets will require prior approval. Any in-person subject-running will require the documented approval of the mentor.
- Grants cannot be used to support graduate/postdoctoral stipends or summer funding. They also cannot be used to support travel.
- Projects that have a role for undergraduates (e.g., creating stimulus materials, programming) will be given priority, although we realize this is a challenge in the current climate. Applications should include a brief statement describing either virtual undergraduate participation (and if so, a description of the plan for communicating with your undergraduates) or a role for undergraduates on campus (any on-campus activities must be explicitly approved by the mentor).
- Funded grants may start any time after the notice of award and will last until December 31st, 2021. Grants are not renewable. Only expenses during the period of award may be charged to the grant.
- Multiple applications per student (as PI of the award) are discouraged.

Submission Information

Applications should be submitted by **February 12th, 2021**, for full consideration. A completed application should be emailed to pn-grad-grants@duke.edu as a single PDF file that includes:

- **Project Description** (up to 2 pages). The project description should be scholarly but also broadly accessible to other psychological/neuroscience researchers. It should include a project title and a lay-language abstract that would be appropriate for publication on the departmental website (<100 words). The remainder of the project description can be organized/formatted however you see fit (i.e., single spacing is fine). Include a plan for engagement of undergraduates, if appropriate. References do not count in the page limit.
- **Narrative Budget** (up to 1 page). Provide an annotated summary of how funds will be allocated. Request the funds you need, up to \$2000 (small award) or \$5000 (large amount).
- **Approval of the Mentor**. Include a page with the mentor's signature or a copy of an email indicating the mentor's approval. You do not need to include a formal letter of support or anything extensive, with the exception that the mentor must explicitly approve any proposed in-person data collection or in-lab activities for undergraduates.

A. Eligibility

- All graduate students and postdoctoral fellows with primary appointment in P&N can apply for these grants. Postdoctoral fellows appointed through an interdisciplinary unit (e.g., DIBS) are eligible if their main research mentor has a primary appointment in P&N. Students/fellows whose primary appointments are in another department are eligible to apply as part of a research team that includes another student/fellow with primary appointment in P&N. (Note that CNAP students who have not yet declared for P&N are eligible to apply for the research grants if they intend to declare for P&N.)
- Any student with a *completed* Lafitte grant must have filed their final report to be eligible.

B. Review Criteria and Process

Applications will be reviewed by a committee of P&N faculty members. Key criteria for the grants program will include overall scholarly merit, innovativeness, anticipated impact upon undergraduates research experience or general experience at Duke, and feasibility for completion by December 31, 2021. Depending on the number of applications received, priority may be given to applicants who do not hold a current Lafitte grant. Final funding decisions will be made by an ad hoc committee comprising representatives from the leadership of P&N and its graduate program.

C. Reporting Requirements

To provide evidence of our stewardship of this philanthropic gift, we will ask the following of recipients:

- Some recipients will be contacted by Communications Specialist Cara August for brief email or interview testimonials about their project (which will be incorporated into an annual report to be distributed to the donors and Duke leadership).
- Each grantee should also submit a one-page final report after its completion. A box folder will be created where awardees can upload this report as well as photos and other deliverables (e.g., a pdf of a conference poster or publication resulting from the grant).
- All publications resulting from Grant funding should acknowledge the support of the “Charles Lafitte Foundation Program in Psychological Research at Duke University.”

Note that all Grant funds are intended to be expended during the period of support and cannot carry over to future years. So, we encourage people to request the funds they need for their project and to use those funds responsibly during the year of the grant – not reserving any funds for carry-over. Unused funds will need to be returned to the Grant pool at the end of the funding period.

D. Questions/Inquiries

Questions about eligibility and projects may be directed to Elizabeth Marsh at emarsh@psych.duke.edu. If you have specific questions about the logistics of applying, please contact Staff Assistant Brooke Shaw at brooke.shaw@duke.edu

CONTINUATION: Call for Graduate/Postdoctoral *Virtual* Conference Awards (2020-2021)

Up to \$300 per trainee is available to support virtual attendance to conferences and workshops in the 20-21 academic year.

We will be adopting the following guidelines for these awards:

- The awards can support typical expenses associated with virtual conference attendance, such as registration fees. Society memberships may be allowable, *if* documentation is submitted to show that lower registration fees for members offset the cost of membership.
- Virtual attendance must take place between September 1, 2020 and May 31, 2021.
- Awards will be made on a rolling basis.
- The maximum award is \$300 for the 20-21 academic year; awards issued in Fall 2020 count towards this total.
- A trainee may apply for more than one award if the total cost does not exceed \$300.
- All graduate students and postdoctoral fellows with primary appointment in P&N can apply. Postdocs appointed to DIBS and non-declared CNAP students are eligible if they work with primary P&N faculty.
- The funds will not be extended beyond May 31, 2021.

We will have a simplified submission process for these virtual conference awards:

- Email pn-grad-grants@duke.edu the following information: the name of the conference, dates of the virtual meeting, budget (line items plus cost), and documentation of mentor's approval (e.g., a forwarded email of support). No narrative is required to apply.

Reporting requirements will remain the same:

- A short written testimonial should be submitted after the virtual meeting (e.g., what was presented, what was learned, interesting experiences). It can be emailed to pn-grad-grants@duke.edu.
- Communications Specialist Cara August may request brief interviews with a subset of awardees.

Questions/Inquiries

If you have any questions about the 2020-21 Virtual Conference program, contact Elizabeth Marsh at emarsh@psych.duke.edu or staff specialist Brooke Shaw at brooke.shaw@duke.edu.