

EUC Dissertation Field Research Award

The EUC Dissertation Field Research Award is designed for PhD students whose primary source of graduate funding is through Teaching Assistantships but who are unable to take up a TA position in a given semester because their dissertation fieldwork requires an extended absence from Toronto. While an award covering one semester would be the norm, a second term may be granted subject need and availability. Awards are tenable in the Fall or the Winter semesters, with separate calls for applications circulated in April (for the Fall) and August (for the Winter).

Eligibility

- The award is open to full-time PhD students registered in the graduate programs in Geography or Environmental Studies.
- Students holding major internal or external awards, which provide at least \$7000 in funding per semester, are not eligible.
- The award will normally only be tenable in the 3rd or 4th year of a PhD program.
- The student's dissertation field research must require an extended period of data gathering away from Toronto, such that they cannot meet the in-person on-campus commitments of a Teaching Assistantship. This need must be reflected in the student's dissertation proposal and confirmed by their supervisor.
- At the time of holding the award, PhD students must have completed all course work, passed all comprehensive examinations, have submitted an approved dissertation proposal to the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and received (where applicable) ethics clearance from the Office of Research Ethics.

Other Considerations

- The award amount will be paid into the awardee's student account in the first month of the relevant semester.
- Students will continue to be covered by CUPE 3903 health and dental benefits during the period of the award on the same terms as graduate students actively engaged in TA work.
- The value of the award will reflect the full amount that would have been payable if a 0.5 TA appointment had been possible (including salary, vacation, and GIA).
- A York Doctoral Fellowship (YDF) held by the student, as well as GFA (and ITO if applicable) will be paid in the usual installments.
- The award replaces a 0.5 TA position in a given academic year and cannot be held in addition to a 1.0 TA.
- Holding an award in place of a semester-length TA-ship will not extend, nor will it reduce, the funded period in the student's PhD program.
- Awards must be used in the year for which they are granted. If they cannot be used, the student should reapply for the following year.

Application Requirements

A complete application for the EUC Dissertation Field Research Award will comprise:

- A two page statement describing the extended fieldwork requirements for the dissertation and the reasons that research cannot be conducted while remaining available for on-site TA work at York. The statement should include a timeline for the research, travel dates, and locations.
- A brief statement of support sent separately by the dissertation supervisor, commenting on the student's need to carry out the fieldwork activities proposed.
- A copy of the approved dissertation proposal, if applicable.
- Confirmation of FGS and ORE approval of the ethics protocol and risk assessment, if applicable.

Students who have not yet submitted their proposals, research ethics and risk assessment documentation to FGS may still apply, but the supervisor's statement of support must confirm the expected timing of these required components. No funds will be deposited into student accounts until FGS and ORE approvals have been received, so students should plan accordingly when applying for this award.

Inquiries about the award should be directed to Associate Dean Philip Kelly (eucadrgg@yorku.ca).

Applications should be submitted to Ouma Jaipaul-Gill (oumajai@yorku.ca). Awards will be adjudicated by the EUC Research Committee. Two rounds of awards will be administered annually, with a deadline of **April 30th** for a **Fall** semester award and **August 31st** for a **Winter** semester award. Up to four single-semester EUC Dissertation Field Research Awards will be available in each academic year.