Coca-Cola Critical Difference

Graduate Student Grant for Research on Women, Gender, and Gender Equity

Open to Ohio State University PhD Candidates & MFA or terminal Master’s thesis students

Students of any gender may apply

**See** [**The Women’s Place website**](https://womensplace.osu.edu/grants-scholarships/cdw-research-women-grants) **for deadlines and grant use dates**

Through the support of the Coca-Cola Foundation, the Critical Difference program at The Ohio State University will award research grants to advanced graduate students. Grants are intended to fund research and other activities that support degree completion for PhD, MFA and terminal Master’s students. This grant competition is administered by The Women’s Place and the Critical Difference Research Grants Committee, comprised of faculty across the university. The number of grants depends on availability of funds and grants may not exceed $1,000 for a 12-month period.

Objectives of the Grant Competition

* Encourage analysis and research on the perspectives, experiences, and issues relevant to women in the U.S. and abroad (in the past, present, or future)
* Promote the development of knowledge, theories, and/or research designs that improve understanding of women’s lives and gender disparities
* Promote discipline-based and interdisciplinary scholarship with potential to contribute to improved quality of life for women and underserved populations
* Support research, creative inquiry, and artistic performance that promotes diversity, women’s representation, and gender equity

Eligibility

Only students who previously have not received a CDW award are eligible to apply. PhD candidates who apply for the grant must have completed their general examinations (comprehensive exams) prior to June 30 of the grant award year. Failure to meet this condition will result in withdrawal of an award. We regret that we cannot provide funding for dissertation *writing* (supplemental income to replace other employment while you write); the grant is specifically for advancing *research*, including through funding field experience, archival research, and materials.

Students who are required to submit a thesis or a project to fulfill requirements for a terminal Master’s, MBA, or MFA also may be eligible. The student’s advisor must verify in a letter of support that the thesis or project is a requirement and that a Master’s or equivalent degree is the terminal degree for the student.

Utilization of Funds

Grants may be used for research-related travel and receipted expenses, research or administrative assistance, reproduction and data processing costs, research services, payment to human subjects, and to purchase relevant materials, software, or small equipment. The following purposes are not eligible expenses for grant funding: fees for typing and copying dissertations or theses; student tuition and fees; and travel to professional meetings and conferences to *present* work (you may travel to *conduct research* that leads to subsequent presentations).

**The grant period begins July 1 of the grant application submission year and ends on June 30 of the following year.** Funds will be applied to your Student Financial Aid account to be withdrawn as an award. Only expenses incurred within the grant period are eligible. All unused funds will revert to The Women’s Place at the end of the grant period. No funds will be disbursed until you have provided written proof of having passed general examinations and of having received IRB approval (if relevant).

If you receive other funding to cover the same expenses for which you requested funding from this grant competition, you will need to notify us and amend your budget accordingly.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

* alignment with the objectives of the Critical Difference research grant
* contribution to the applicant’s field
* feasibility of the proposed research or activity
* significance of the project for advancing scholarship about women and gender equity
* potential for research to enhance the university’s outreach and engagement to local communities or national and international audiences

Application Requirements

All proposals should include these components:

1. Abstract of 50-100 words. Please include your name and project title in the abstract.
2. Project Description (up to 1500 words):
   * 1. Research Objectives: Indicate the key research questions, hypothesis or rationale for the project; how the project is significant to scholarship, knowledge, representation, and/or gender analysis in your field; and how the proposed project relates to the objectives of the Coca-Cola Critical Difference Research on Women grants
     2. Theoretical Framework: Indicate the theoretical framework, concepts, and/or perspective guiding the study or project; provide a brief but adequate summary of the literature; and indicate the significance and expected contribution of the proposed research to your field
     3. Methods or Procedures: Where relevant, explain the methodology you will use, sources of data/information/texts, and plans for analysis, interpretation or representation
     4. Timeline: Describe the research or project plan, indicating the anticipated schedule for various activities or stages of the project. Indicate the progress you have already made on the project and how, if at all, the work relates to your prior on ongoing research.
     5. Project Accommodations: explanation of how the research can be conducted in keeping with pandemic safety protocols, which may include social distancing with human subjects, if relevant. Research must adhere to the university’s coronavirus travel guidelines and protocols for meetings and gatherings.
3. Curriculum Vitae of no more than 3 pages
4. IRB Human Subjects Approval or Waiver status
5. Budget. If the grant maximum of $1,000 is less than the total expenses for your project, indicate other sources of funding that you are pursuing or have received.
6. Advisor’s Letter. Your advisor should send a letter confirming your progress towards degree

These files (except the advisor's letter of recommendation) should be uploaded to the Qualtrics application portal in a .jpeg, .pdf or .docx format. Have your documents prepared prior to beginning the application process. Please direct your advisor to submit the recommendation by the deadline to the following address: [womensplace@osu.edu](mailto:womensplace@osu.edu)

**Deadline:** **See** [**The Women’s Place website**](https://womensplace.osu.edu/grants-scholarships/cdw-research-women-grants) **for deadlines and grant use dates.**

Terms of the Grant Award

All publications, performances, dissertations or theses supported by a grant should acknowledge the support of the Coca-Cola Critical Difference Research grant and The Women’s Place. Failure to make adequate progress on the project or misuse of funds will result in the suspension of the grant.

At the end of the grant period, awardees should submit a 1- to 2-page written report and final budget to The Women’s Place. This report should indicate what was achieved through the grant, including any publications, products, presentations, or subsequent grants. We also encourage you to submit a photo of yourself and any relevant images from your research. The Women’s Place uses these reports for fiscal audits, annual funding reports and, with permission, promotional materials for The Women’s Place and Critical Difference.

For questions about the grant or application process, contact [womensplace@osu.edu](mailto:womensplace@osu.edu) or 614-292-3960.