2019-2020 Mellon-Wisconsin Fellowship
Call for Applications
Spring 2020 and Summer 2020

Deadline: November 1, 2019 (Midnight)

**Background:** The Mellon Foundation, in partnership with the State of Wisconsin, provides funding to the College of Letters & Science for this initiative. The funds represent an ongoing commitment to support graduate students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. This fellowship competition is administered by the Graduate School.

*NOTE:* Due to the end of funding from the Mellon Foundation, the Graduate School expects that this will be the last term in which we will accept applications for this fellowship. Applicants will be able to indicate a preference of holding the fellowship in Spring 2020 or Summer 2020 on the application.

**Eligibility:** International and domestic students, including permanent residents and refugees, may apply for these fellowships. In addition, students must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be enrolled in a PhD program located within the College of Letters & Science (students in MFA or DMA programs are not eligible);
- Be engaged in dissertation research in the humanities or humanistic social sciences. If applicants are unsure about whether their research qualified, they should consult with their research advisor;
- Have achieved dissertator status by the beginning of the term prior to holding the fellowship (i.e., Fall 2019 for a Spring 2020 fellowship or Spring 2020 for a Summer 2020 fellowship);
- Have not received Mellon-Wisconsin fellowship support in the past; and
- Be in the final stages of dissertation writing; fellowship recipients are expected to complete their dissertations by the end of the term one year after holding the fellowship.

**Benefits and Responsibilities:** Mellon-Wisconsin Fellowship awardees will receive a total stipend of $2,460/month, in addition to having all tuition and required fees covered. Spring 2020 fellowships provide eligibility for health insurance during the fellowship period, while Summer 2020 Fellowships do not provide health insurance eligibility. The dates of the Spring 2020 fellowship are January 3, 2020, through May 17, 2020, while the Summer 2020 fellowship dates are June 1, 2020, through August 31, 2020.

Fellowship recipients must enroll for three research credits and advisors must agree to be minimally available for fellows. Because the purpose of the fellowship award is to allow students to focus full-time on their dissertation preparation, additional campus employment during the fellowship period is not allowed without prior approval from the Graduate School.

**Application Period:** Monday, October 7, 2019 – Friday, November 1, 2019. Please note that late submissions will not be accepted.
**Review Process and Award Information:** Mellon-Wisconsin Fellowships are highly competitive. All completed applications will be read thoroughly by a review committee comprised of L&S faculty members. Applications will be rated based on academic merit, advisor support, quality of the research in the humanities or humanistic social sciences, and critical need. You will be notified of your award status by November 26, 2019. Decisions of the committee are final.

**Application Process:** The application process is managed through WiSH (Wisconsin Scholarship Hub). A completed application includes: 1) a letter of recommendation from your advisor, 2) information requested in the online system, and 3) a PDF of your CV. The online application system allows you to start your application and return to update it any time before the deadline.

1. **Letter of recommendation from your advisor (COMPLETE THESE STEPS AT LEAST TWO WEEKS BEFORE THE DEADLINE).**
   a. Ask your advisor to prepare a letter of recommendation for this fellowship. At a minimum, the letter should include the following information: 1) your academic merit, 2) your need for the summer fellowship support, and 3) the timeline for completion of your dissertation in addition to attesting to the quality of the research in the humanities or in a humanistic social science.
   b. Go to the online application system and click the “Request a Letter of Recommendation from My Advisor” button. Your advisor will be sent an email with a link to the on-line system where s/he can upload the letter of recommendation. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO REQUEST THIS LETTER AS YOUR ADVISOR LIKELY WILL NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE A QUALITY RECOMMENDATION.**

2. **Complete the online application in which you be asked to provide the following information:**
   a. The first and last name of your advisor;
   b. Your dissertation title;
   c. A dissertation abstract (limit: 250 words);
   d. A description of your critical need for the fellowship (limit: 250 words);
   e. A narrative timeline for completion of your dissertation, including how much you have already written and when you expect to complete various dissertation milestones (limit: 250 words); and
   f. When you would like to hold the fellowship if selected.

3. **Upload a copy of your CV. Please include in the CV information about the on-campus funding (graduate assistantships, fellowships, reader/grader positions, etc.) you have received during your graduate studies at UW-Madison.**

**Questions:** Questions can be directed to LaRuth McAfee, Assistant Dean, UW-Madison Graduate School Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Funding (offr@grad.wisc.edu).