



RUTH AND BILL FINCKE PHD STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD 2022-23 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Ruth and Bill Fincke PhD Student Research Award was established to support scholars in their efforts to discover and extend scientific knowledge that advances the science and practice of nursing and clinical care for individuals with chronic disorders.

The maximum amount available for 2022-2023 is \$2,664. These funds can be used by the PhD students to pursue their PhD degree in the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. Funding will cover research that is conducted starting July 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023.

Deadline for submission is **4:00 pm EST, Monday, June 13, 2022**. Notification of the award will be made by mail and email. Plans are tentatively being made for the School of Nursing to host its annual Scholarship Luncheon in the fall term. You will receive more information on date and time at a later date.

This award was made possible by the generosity of our alumni and friends at the School of Nursing. **If your award was sponsored by an active School of Nursing donor**, you will be contacted and asked to participate in our online Scholar Profile program. The Scholar Profile is sent to the donors of your scholarship. Please be on the lookout in the fall for an email to complete your questionnaire and thank you note. If you have any questions about this, please reach out to Caitlin Harvey, Manager of Scholarship Engagement and Donor Relations at Caitlin.Harvey@pitt.edu.

If you are interested in applying for more than one PhD student research award, please submit one application and indicate your award interest using the attached checklist. At most, one award will be issued per application.

Please submit your proposal to:

Ruth and Bill Fincke PhD Student Research Award Application Committee

C/o Kathleen Kennedy

Center for Research and Evaluation

University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing

3500 Victoria Street, Room 360

Pittsburgh, PA 15261

Telephone: 412-624-4854

Fax: 412-624-1201

E-mail: kke100@pitt.edu

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. The applicant must be a student enrolled full-time and in good standing in the PhD Program at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.
2. Principal investigators (PIs) are limited to submitting one application per year.
3. If the project is part of a larger project, applicants must delineate the portion of the larger research project that is the PI's responsibility.
4. Applicants are required to notify and return unused funds to the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing if funding is received from other sources.
5. Awards may be repeated to a PhD student if the proposal is meritorious.
6. Qualified candidates shall submit a brief research proposal, including a budget. Budgets should be prepared with the assistance of the grants management staff in the Office of the Dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.
7. PhD students who have satisfactorily completed their overview and are in the implementation/data collection phase of the dissertation will be given preference, although students who are earlier in their training and have not completed overview will also be considered.
8. Students shall be required to submit a brief proposal outlining the planned work, as well as a budget and budget justification.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. **The application deadline is 4:00 pm EST, Monday, June 13, 2022.** All proposals must be received at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing by this date. No extensions for submission will be granted.
2. Proposed projects requiring funds in excess of the award amount will be reviewed; however, actual sources of funding to support a larger amount need to be identified.
3. Paper-and-pencil Instruments proposed for use in the study should be included in the appendix.
4. Submit the proposal **electronically as one combined PDF to:**

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Center for Research and Evaluation
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APPLICATION GUIDELINES
Ruth and Bill Fincke PhD Student Research Award

Items 3 through 6 should not exceed five (5) single-spaced, single-sided, typewritten or computer-generated pages. Print size should not be less than 11 characters per inch (cpi).

1. **Title page:** Include title of the study, name of the investigator(s), name of the institution, name of award, complete address, telephone number and e-mail address.
2. **Abstract:** Compose a brief statement (300 words) justifying the proposed project and assessing the project's clinical importance.
3. **Introduction and Specific Aims:** Provide a brief introduction and list the specific aims, hypotheses, and/or research questions of the project.
4. **Significance/Innovation:** Describe the significance and innovation of the proposed study.
5. **Background:** Present a concise critique of the literature supporting the proposed project.
6. **Design and Methodology:** Include the following as appropriate to the study design: study design, setting and sample, dependent and independent variables, reliability and validity of instruments, justification of the sample size, procedures for data collection, and data analysis.
7. **Human and/or Animal Subjects:** Describe risk, benefits and measures for minimizing risks and indicate Internal Review Board (IRB) status as per NIH Guidelines, not to exceed one page.
8. **Budget:** Calculate a proposed budget and justification for a maximum amount of the award amount with general categories of expenses listed, not to exceed two pages. Students must work with their assigned grants analyst in the Office of the Dean in the School of Nursing when preparing their budget.
9. **Biosketch:** Include a biosketch of the principal investigator, using the current four-page NIH format.
10. **Resources and Environment:** Include only for students working outside of the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.
11. **Appendix:** Include instruments to be used in the study.
12. **Letter of support from the advisor/dissertation chair attesting to applicant's qualifications and ability to conduct the proposed study.**

**RUTH AND BILL FINCKE PHD STUDENT RESEARCH AWARD
REVIEW CRITERIA**

REVIEW

1. Recipients of this award shall be selected by a School of Nursing Selection Committee, with the approval of the Dean of the School of Nursing. The Selection Committee shall be comprised of three faculty members from the PhD Council, one of whom shall be the PhD Program Coordinator.
2. After recipient of the award is notified, all principal investigators will be notified of the disposition of their application. Written comments from the reviewers will be available upon request.
4. Applications are treated as privileged communication and are restricted to members of the Research Review Committee, University of Pittsburgh, School of Nursing staff and consultants.

FUNDING

1. Grants are awarded **July 1** and are funded for one year. Under no circumstances will more than the specified maximum funding be awarded.
2. Priority for funding is based upon the scientific merit, significance and innovation of the proposal with consideration given to the investigator's ability to conduct the study. The project's potential for leading to further research, and its contribution to nursing knowledge or knowledge in other fields will be considered.
3. Proposals for research involving any human population must be reviewed by a human subjects review committee (institutional review board) which operates under officially accepted assurances from the Department of Health and Human Services. **No funds will be awarded until the documentation is received by the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.**
4. Proposals for research involving any animal population must include documentation that the laboratory where research is to be conducted is an accredited animal research laboratory. **No funds will be awarded until the documentation is received by the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.**
5. All outstanding documentation and conditions must be received within 60 days of the award notification to maintain eligibility for the award. No funds will be disbursed until all conditions of the grant are fulfilled. Requests for extensions to satisfy funding requirements will be considered only under exceptional conditions. Awards which fail to satisfy the requirements within the 60-day period will be declared ineligible.
6. Extensions: All deadline extension requests must be in writing addressed to Director of the Center for Research and Evaluation in the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing. All extension requests will be responded to in writing giving specific dates that constitute the new deadlines. Extension requests in excess of one year from the original reporting dates for either the narrative or the financial report will be considered only under exceptional circumstances.

7. Expense reimbursement: Applicants may select one of two payment options:
Option A. Expense vouchers with supporting receipts are sent to the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing by the grantee for direct payment by the University's Payment Processing via the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing for approved expenses.
Option B. The grant funds are administered by an affiliated institution. The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing makes a lump sum payment to the institution in the amount of the award.

If funding is handled through an applicant's institutional affiliation, that institution must be a public organization or 501(c) (3) institution as defined by the Internal Revenue Service, and the institution must furnish satisfactory assurances that funds granted will be expended solely for the purposes for which the grant is made. No funds will be awarded until the documentation is received by the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

The affiliated institution is encouraged to administer the grant without charging indirect costs against the grant. However, an institution may charge no more than 5 percent of the grant as an indirect cost and this must be included in the total amount of funding requested.

8. The distribution and expenditure of funds on the part of the institutional affiliation and the foundation shall be in accordance with standard accounting procedures.
9. The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing will not consider requests or assume responsibility for any costs incurred prior to the award date.
10. Expenses must be incurred within the one-year grant period or approved extension deadline.
11. Unexpended funds will be retained by the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing (Option A grants) or returned to the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing (Option B grants) when the funding period terminates.
12. Permission may be granted to move funds from one budget category to another as long as no additional expense to the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing is involved.
13. The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing may grant permission to transfer funds to a different institution in the event of a change in the investigator's institutional affiliation with approval of the Research Review Committee. A written request should be directed to the Research Review Committee Chairperson.

FINAL REPORTS

1. The principal investigator is responsible for producing a 2-page final report and an abstract (approximately 250 words) summarizing the results of the study that must be submitted with the final narrative. Since the abstract will be used to report the study to a general audience, the abstract must be written for the lay reader.

2. Reporting time frame - Financial:

It is the responsibility of the principal investigator or institution to submit **a final financial report no later than 60 days after the expiration of the funding period.**

3. Reporting time frames - Narratives:

Principal investigators are responsible for the **final narrative reports due 90 days following expiration of the original or amended project funding period.**

3. **Failure to comply with deadlines for final reports will disqualify the researcher from receiving University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing grants in the future. The researcher's file may be closed if no communication is received within 30 days of the expired deadline.**

PUBLICATIONS

1. Publications resulting from the award must acknowledge the support from the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing through the Ruth and Bill Fincke PhD Student Research Award as described in the award letter.
2. The investigator will provide the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing with a reprint of any publication resulting from the research.
3. The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing may wish to publish portions of any or all reports, documents and materials developed in the course of research and will do so only with the permission of the investigator.

COPYRIGHT

Any and all reports, documents, and materials developed in the course of the research may be copyrighted and published in the name of the investigator, provided:

1. If the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing funds are used in whole or in part to meet costs of publication, the costs will be a first charge upon any royalties and will be refunded to the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing out of the first royalties received, before any royalties are retained by the investigator or the sponsoring institution.
2. Any publication will contain a notice that the research was supported in whole or in part by a grant from the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.
3. The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing is granted a royalty-free, non-exclusive, irrevocable license to reproduce or purchase any reports, documents, or materials and to translate them, or publish them, either directly or through assignees or sublicenses.

PATENTS

In the event that any inventions are developed in the course of the research, the investigator may file patent applications, provided:

Exceptional situations not specifically addressed in these policies will be directed to the Dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing for final determination.

1. The inventions are promptly reported to University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.
2. The patent application shall include a statement in the first paragraph of the specification that the invention was made in the course of research supported in whole or in part by a grant from the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

3. The University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing is granted a royalty-free, non-exclusive, irrevocable license to use the inventions for purposes of further research, either directly or through assignees or sublicenses, but not for the purposes of commercial development or exploitation

Questions may be directed to Kathleen Kennedy, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, 3500 Victoria Street, 360 Victoria Building, Pittsburgh, PA 15261, 412-624-4854 or e-mail at kke100@pitt.edu.