

CELSS Grants for Graduate Students' Dissertations

The Columbia Experimental Laboratory in the Social Sciences (CELSS) provides funding to support PhD dissertation chapters that utilize experimental data. *This call is targeted to studies conducted online. For in-person studies, please contact CELSS' manager and director (celss-manager@columbia.edu and celss-director@columbia.edu). Such studies are severely restricted at the moment.*

Eligibility

Applicants must be advanced doctoral students at Columbia in Economics, Political Science, SIPA, the Business School, Sociology or in a department affiliated with ISERP.

The dissertation funds are restricted to doctoral students who have previously obtained a graduate student seed grant from CELSS and can demonstrate that the project has high probability of becoming part of their dissertations. In addition, the proposal must have been presented at a workshop or colloquium with some faculty presence (for example, in the Economics department: a field colloquium, CELSS Experimental Lunch, the Cognition and Decision Lab meeting, etc.).

Application

The deadline for responding to this call is January 22, 2021.

Later applications may be considered on a rolling basis, depending on funds' availability.

The application must include (separate documents in a compressed folder): (1) a cover letter, including the name of the workshop or colloquium where the proposal has been presented; (2) a paper or presentation slides summarizing the results from the initial CELSS grant; (3) the budget (i.e. a summary table with a clear description of how the available budget would be spent on participant payment, fees, etc.); (4) the applicant's CV; (5) a statement detailing additional sources of funding for the project (successful, pending, and rejected applications); (6) the endorsement of the student's thesis adviser.

The cover letter (maximum 2 pages) should outline briefly the basic rationale of the research, the question under study, and the experimental procedures. Please note that longer proposals will not be considered.

The maximum budget is \$3,000. Applicants must show a good faith effort of obtaining funding from external sources. Exceptions to the \$3,000 limit can be requested but must be strongly motivated, must be accompanied by proof of a standing outside application, and have low probability of acceptance.

The endorsement of the thesis adviser can be an email to the CELSS director (celss-director@columbia.edu). The adviser needs to state explicitly that he/she (1) is familiar with the work done so far, (2) is confident that the project can produce a high quality dissertation chapter; (3) will be responsible for following the progress of the project.

The applicant should submit the items mentioned above in electronic form in a single compressed folder, and send the application to the CELSS manager, at celss-manager@columbia.edu. The title of the e-mail should be "Application for CELSS Funding; Dissertations" and the name of the compressed folder should be "LastnameFirstname_CelssFundingApp".

Note:

1. Unless part of a class, any experiment run on CELSS' subject pool or with financial support from CELSS requires approval by the Institutional Review Board (<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/irb/>) and the respect of CELSS rules (<https://celss.iserp.columbia.edu/research-projects/rules>).
2. The funding allocation expires at the end of the second semester following the grant (here: May 2022). Unused funds will be reappropriated by CELSS.