The Undergraduate and Graduate Research Grants in Psychology

Applications Available in Early Fall

Description of the Grants

The College of Behavioral and Social Sciences (BSS) is pleased to announce that funds have been donated to support two research grants for psychology students. The Undergraduate Research Grant in Psychology is for an undergraduate who plans on conducting a promising research study under the close supervision of a faculty mentor. The Graduate Research Grant in Psychology is for a graduate student conducting a promising research project also under the close supervision of a faculty mentor.

The funders’ goal is to help sponsor student research at both the undergraduate and graduate levels in psychology. The research grant is contingent upon the student working with a sponsoring faculty member on a student-designed research project including independent studies and an Honors project. Research projects may be in any sub-discipline of psychology, but special consideration will be given to those that address issues in developmental psychology. This grant program supports Chico State’s goal of creating and enhancing student-centered learning environments.

The research grants in Psychology are made possible by funds provided by Dr. Sandra Machida, Professor Emerita, and her husband, Geoff Fricker. As long-time professors, both have valued working with many college students of all ages and backgrounds. They wanted to continue to promote student learning by funding grants to support student research projects. Their vision is that students will be able to address their empirical questions in Psychology. It is also hoped that the grantees will also increase the awareness of the importance of psychology as a scientific discipline with the ultimate goal of improving our lives and our communities.

Grant applications are to be submitted by a sponsoring faculty in partnership with a student nominee. Research grants are $500 each and will be available for student research projects in the Fall Semester of each year. The grant recipients will be acknowledged at the BSS Graduation Award Ceremony in the spring.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Undergraduate Research Award, applicants must:
- be an upper-division psychology major with 3.5 GPA or better
- have the support of a designated faculty mentor/grant nominator.
To be eligible for the Graduate Research Grant, applicants must:
- be a current graduate student in psychology with a 3.8 GPA or better
- have the support of a designated faculty mentor/grant nominator.
  First-semester graduate students shall submit his/her undergraduate transcripts. For other
  graduate students, applicants shall submit current graduate transcripts (unofficial are
  acceptable).

Requirements
The Grant Application Packet shall include 2 parts:
1) A faculty sponsor nomination letter and candidate readiness for research rating form
2) A student description of proposed research study and transcripts

1) Faculty nomination letter: A Psychology faculty who is the designated advisor will nominate
   a student who is conducting a promising research project. The letter should include a
   description of
   A) the research topic and its importance in the discipline and to the student.
   B) a description of the student researcher, including academic background, relevant
      experiences, and personal qualities that will increase the likelihood for a successful
      completion of the study.
   C) the importance and benefits of the project.
   D) the faculty’s role in guiding the research project.
   E) the expected outcomes from the project, and
   F) a completed ‘Readiness for Research’ form as an assessment of current student
      attributes that often lead to a successful completion of the project (See attached).
   Note: Nomination letters that provide specific details about the student’s abilities and the
   merits of the research project will increase the strength of the grant application in the
   screening process.

2) Student Description of Proposed Research Study:
The candidate shall submit a brief description (2-3 pages) of his/her proposed research project.
The description should include:
   A) Tentative Research Title
   B) the research area and key questions with a tentative title.
   C) why the study is important to the student and the discipline of psychology (i.e.,
      theoretical, empirical, or applied implications).
   D) a description of the study’s methodology of the study (expected sample,
      measures, procedures, timeline).
   E) the expected outcomes from the research project (e.g., honors project, research
      publication, thesis, scholarly presentation, etc.).
F) a budget with a description outlining the study’s costs and importance of the funds (e.g., equipment, instruments, printing, incentives, travel funds for a conference presentation, fees for technical support). Eligibility for the grant is not based solely on expenses associated with data collection.

G) Unofficial transcripts

After completion of the research study, the faculty sponsor shall submit a final outcomes report and product (e.g., research paper, manuscript) to the Chair of the Psychology Department no later than 30 days after the completion of the research project.

**Timeline, Selection Process, and Deadlines**

Candidates must meet the eligibility requirements, follow the Department’s Grant Selection Process, and meet Grant Deadlines as stated below:

**Undergraduate and Graduate Research Grant in Psychology Schedule**

September 1: Call for Nominations for Psychology Research Grant Awards are announced and publicized through standard campus methods (e.g., Department website, Facebook).

October 31: Submission deadline for turning in the grant nomination packet to the Psychology Department (Modoc 215).

November: The Psychology Department’s Awards Committee will review and rank grant nominations.

December: Notice of Grants and funds will be made available to the recipients as soon as possible. Recognition of the Research Grant Recipients will be acknowledged at the BSS Awards Ceremonies before spring graduation.

**Grant Application Packets and questions should be directed to the**

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