

Application: Dissertation Completion Grants, 2025-26

INTRODUCTION. The Charles Warren Center, Harvard's research center for North American history, awards grants to Ph.D. candidates at Harvard working on topics in American history. To be funded, a student must have passed the general examination, must be undertaking a project centered in American history, and be using a historical methodology. The program includes a limited number of summer travel grants for dissertation research, term-time awards for dissertation research (one semester), and these completion grants (two semesters). For more information on the research awards, including eligibility rules specific to each grant, consult the Center's website.

THE WARREN CENTER DISSERTATION COMPLETION GRANT is a ten-month award to enable dissertation completion free from teaching responsibilities for two semesters. In the recent past, one grant has been awarded annually. The award is available to students with two completed chapters at the point of application. Eligible applicants will be G-5, G-6, or G-7 during the award period (G-8 in exceptional circumstances) and may not have previously held a completion fellowship from any other source. Grant provides a ten-month stipend in an amount set annually by GSAS. The grant will cover the facilities fee and health insurance charges.

OVERVIEW OF THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE, DEADLINE, AND AWARD PROCESS. Complete the CARAT Online Application Form and other necessary online materials by February 7, 2025. A sub-committee of the Center's Administrative Committee will identify awardees and a waitlist; these results will be shared with the GSAS Fellowships Office and other centers offering summer awards. The GSAS Fellowships Director will lead a process identifying multiple awards to individual applicants, the purpose of which is that each awardee receive one offer. Decisions will be communicated by the Warren Center, in April. For complete instructions, carefully read all application materials (the rest of this Warren Center Cover Sheet, as well as the GSAS Standard Application Form). With questions, please consult Warren Center Executive Director Monnikue McCall (momccall@fas.harvard.edu).

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NUMBER OF GRANTS. In the recent past the Warren Center has offered one completion grant for Harvard Ph.D. candidates working on topics in American history.

AMOUNT OF AWARDS. Each completion fellowship stipend equals the amount set for GSAS stipendiary support. Warren Center grants will also cover “tuition” charges (facilities fee and health insurance) for students not otherwise receiving such support.

ELIGIBILITY. Except for #1, the eligibility rules below are the same as those for the GSAS completion awards, and those offered by other Harvard research centers.

1. The project must be centered in American history and the methodology must be historical.
2. Completion of all departmental requirements and an approved Ph.D. dissertation prospectus.
3. Completion of two draft dissertation chapters by the time of application. These are to be submitted to the dissertation adviser, confirmed in both letters of recommendation (one of which must be from the dissertation adviser), and additionally confirmed by the dissertation adviser by way of the form included in this application packet.
4. Dissertation completion fellowships are ordinarily intended to be held in the G-5, G-6 or G-7 year. If the case for completion is very strong, and if there are extenuating circumstances, a completion fellowship may be held in the G-8 year.
5. Applicants are not eligible if they have already held a dissertation completion fellowship from GSAS or any other source.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Though a year of completion funding is now guaranteed, the GSAS requires compliance in the following matters as a condition of such funding.

1. Teaching concurrent with receipt of the fellowship is not permitted, except that Warren Center awardees may direct one senior thesis.
2. The completion grant ordinarily may not be combined with grants from other sources, though exceptions may be made for smaller grants. In addition, completion grant awardees (from any source) may not hold a Warren Center summer travel grant in the summers before or after receipt of a completion grant.

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3. Applicants for Harvard completion funds are to apply for similar fellowships from non-Harvard funding sources. If such an “outside” award is offered, acceptance is required. If the outside award amount is not equivalent to the Warren Center’s, the Graduate School will make up the difference.
4. Students are expected to complete the dissertation during the fellowship year. Under GSAS regulations, this will be the final year of GSAS funding even for students who do not finish during the fellowship year. The Financial Aid Officers can provide additional information on this policy.
5. Completion grants may not be deferred; successful applicants must use the award in the year for which it is awarded.

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APPLICATION PROCEDURES. Applications must be submitted through the CARAT online system by February 7, 2025. A complete application includes the items listed below, all should be uploaded to the CARAT application.

- CARAT Online Application Form. Access CARAT from <https://warrencenter.fas.harvard.edu/graduate-grants>
- Upload current resume, not to exceed two pages.
- Upload current transcript, which may be a grade report from my.harvard.edu.
- Upload statement of purpose (two to four pages, double-spaced) detailing the dissertation's conceptual scheme and timetable for completion within the coming academic year. You may also attach a bibliography identifying major primary and secondary sources. In crafting these submissions, keep in mind the many benefits of conciseness.
- Two letters of recommendation. Recommendation letters should be uploaded and submitted directly into CARAT by faculty recommenders by the Feb. 7 deadline. The best way to give your recommender the CARAT link is to begin your application in CARAT, which includes an option (without concluding your application) to enter the recommender email address which sends your letter-writer a link.

DEADLINE: February 7, 2025