**Nancy L. Mergler and Bullard Dissertation Completion Fellowships**

We are pleased to announce a call for applications from doctoral candidates who are in the final phases of dissertation writing for the 2020 – 2021 [Nancy L. Mergler and Bullard Dissertation Completion Fellowships](http://www.ou.edu/gradcollege/funding/fellowships). **Applications are due by Thursday, February 13, 2020, at 5:00pm.**

**Fellowship Information:**

* Seven applicants (as determined by a committee of faculty from diverse fields of study across campus) will be awarded the Nancy L. Mergler Dissertation Completion Fellowship, which will pay for up to two semesters of a .50 GA appointment. The stipend amount awarded will equal the program’s usual GTA stipend. Tuition waivers and health insurance coverage will be provided. The student will be awarded the money in place of working as a GA, in order to have the opportunity to devote time to completing the dissertation.
* Additional awardees (determined by the same committee) will be awarded the Bullard Dissertation Completion Fellowship. This fellowship will pay for one semester of a .50 GA appointment or two semesters of a .25 GA appointment. The stipend amount awarded will equal the program’s usual .50 or .25 GTA stipend. Tuition waivers and health insurance coverage will be provided. The student will be awarded the money in place of working as a GA in order to have the opportunity to devote time to completing the dissertation.

**Terms and Eligibility:**

* Students may apply directly. They do not need to be nominated by their academic unit.
* Applicants must have completed the general exam and hold a .25 or .50 FTE GA appointment.

**Criteria:**

* Scholarly significance and potential impact of the work. (The committee favors projects that are innovative, high-impact and groundbreaking in nature. We welcome projects that address topics and perspectives historically underrepresented in the academy and/or that have potential impact in support of underserved communities.)
* Overall academic record and professional activity.
* Potential for completion of the dissertation during the award period.

**To Apply:**

Email the application to Gail Shelton (aokoe@ou.edu). **Applications are due by Thursday, February 13, 2020, at 5:00pm.** The application should include the following:

* The official [cover sheet available here](http://www.ou.edu/content/dam/gradcollege/docs/gc-cover-sheet-mergler-and-bullard-dissertation-completion-fellowship.pdf).
* A one-page plan for completion which explains the structure of the dissertation, states which elements are complete, and offers a plan and schedule for completing the remaining elements.
* A letter of reference from the applicant’s major professor describing the scholarly  significance and potential impact of the work. The letter should summarize the status of the project and offer a clear assessment of the applicant’s potential for completing the dissertation during the following academic year (e.g., the applicant is very likely to complete; the applicant has a reasonable prospect of completing; it is uncertain that the applicant will complete). The letter should also provide an estimate regarding the relative quality of the applicant’s project (e.g., is the project in the top 5%, 10% or 15% of dissertations seen to date?). **This letter should be sent directly from the faculty member’s email address in order maintain confidentiality of its contents.**
* A current copy of the applicant’s curriculum vitae including information about research, service and outreach activities if applicable.
* A short abstract of the dissertation (maximum 2 single-spaced pages) that explains the significance and impact of the work in terms accessible to a lay person.
* A sample of the applicant’s writing (maximum 10,000 words) that allows evaluation of the project. Co-authored work is acceptable if it presents the student’s original research. Work that has already been published is welcome.
* The applicant’s academic transcript.
* Optional: Applicants who have experienced delays in completion are welcome to submit a letter of explanation.