

## Psychology Department Guidelines for Funding Graduate Research

1. Your first step in the search for money to pay for your research needs should be a conversation with your advisor. Advisers who have grant money or startup money available that covers the scope of the project will generally provide support for moderate research expenses of graduate students working with them. (If your project has little or nothing to do with the general program of research for which they have been given the money, though, they may not be able to provide any money.) If your adviser does not have funds available or you anticipate needing larger sums of money than your adviser can provide, your adviser will refer you to other sources.
2. If your adviser cannot fully cover your research expenses, the Psychology Department will reimburse graduate students for up to \$100 per year for research expenses such as stimulus materials, prizes to give to child participants, etc. Itemized receipts must be given to the department coordinator, along with a brief explanation on a separate sheet of paper of what the expenses are for, which must be approved by the chair before the reimbursement is processed. Because some projects involve a single larger expense on a less frequent basis, you can claim up to \$200 in a single year with the understanding that you will have no additional money available in the following year. (Years will be on the fiscal calendar, July 1 to June 30.)
3. The College of Arts and Sciences also has grants to support graduate student research. The application requires a short description of your project and the need for funding, a budget for your project, and a letter of support from your faculty research advisor. The College expects to cost-share with departments, ordinarily on a 50/50% basis. Graduate students may request a maximum of \$500 from the department to support their dissertation research. The actual amount the department will contribute will depend on expected project expenses, the amount of department support for research the student has already received, and the graduate student's standing in the program. Students who are on track to complete their master's thesis and dissertation in the timeframe expected by the department (see the graduate student handbook) are more likely to receive support than students whose work is behind schedule.
4. For expenses beyond those that you can cover through the above mechanisms, there are local and national sources for funding for graduate student research. If you anticipate substantial expenses, the department strongly encourages you to pursue these funding sources. Applications are generally short; you gain good experience in writing a research proposal and budget; and if you receive the award, you'll both have the money for your research and a line that looks good on your vita. (The national awards, of course, carry more prestige than the local sources.) Information on sources is available from the department Director of Graduate Studies.

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