10/17/25

REISCHAUER INSTITUTE DISSERTATION WRITING GRANT

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies (RIJS) is pleased to provide term-time support to Harvard GSAS doctoral candidates from any field in Japanese studies within the humanities or social sciences, specifically to prepare the two-chapter minimum requirement needed to apply for the Dissertation Completion Grant, immediately following the DWG term. Grants are to be held by students who are beginning the writing stages of their dissertations, post fieldwork, yet have not reached their completion year, such as students who are G5s or G6s. Particularly advanced G4s may be considered. GSAS doctoral applicant dissertations must be focused on Japanese Studies. To be eligible for the RIJS DWG, applicants also must typically be previous recipients of an RIJS Graduate Summer Research Grant and/or RIJS Supplementary Dissertation Research Grant.

The purpose of the RIJS Dissertation Writing Grant is to release students from one semester of teaching to allow them to fully focus on writing their dissertations without the burden of teaching or other employment. Recipients of these grants may not hold the GSAS Merit Fellowship, a dissertation completion fellowship, or any other term-time grants during the same semester. Support is limited to one semester only, generally during the fall term, and cannot be supplemented with other teaching or research activity. Grant recipients may use their funds while writing their dissertations in residence at Harvard or elsewhere.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Application is by email from doctoral candidate to the RIJS Executive Director with endorsement by dissertation primary advisor.

To apply, interested students should submit:

- Coversheet/letter requesting support that includes:
 - o Name, citizenship (indicate permanent residency, if applicable);
 - o Current physical location, email address/es and location during DWG Grant
 - o Academic department; field of study; and year of graduate study (Current G Year)
 - o Title of dissertation research
- Statement of need for DWG grant and activity plan for use of the DWG Grant
- Description of dissertation in approx. 1000 words
- A detailed budget and time period for use of the funds requested.
- Name of advisor/faculty member (and department) who supports your application. *Please also cc your advisor on your email application.*
- Current Resume or Current CV
- Current Transcript or Grade Record
- Requires 1 endorsement letter from dissertation primary adviser to be emailed to whitelaw@fas.harvard.edu with cc: to cglover@fas.harvard.edu by the deadline.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Email completed application to: Gavin Whitelaw, RIJS Executive Director, whitelaw fas.harvard.edu with cc to: Catherine Glover, cglover fas.harvard.edu

For Fall Term DWG application due by June 30, 5PM EST For Spring Term DWG application due by October 30, 5PM EST

GRANT AMOUNT:
Maximum grant award up to \$15,000 for the semester.

For further information, please contact RIJS Program Coordinator: Catherine Glover, cglover@fas.harvard.edu; https://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/