NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
College of Education

Dean's Dissertation or Thesis Completion Award

We are pleased to announce the availability of Dean's Dissertation or Thesis Completion Award for the 2026-2027 Academic Year. The purpose of this program is to assist COE graduate students in their original research when completing their dissertation or thesis. Awards may be used for the purchase of equipment, travel, contractual services, and/or other areas that would be necessary for project completion. Students must have successfully proposed their dissertation or thesis to be eligible.

Proposals will be reviewed by faculty representatives from the College of Education Research Committee. **Awards are limited to a maximum of $2,500 each.**

Proposals that include additional pay for existing personnel and/or purchases must follow NIU compensation guidelines and procurement rules (contact the COE Budget Office for assistance). Proposals may NOT involve the hiring of new employees or the purchase of food or gifts.

Timeline

- Proposals are due via online submission by October 30
- Notifications to all applicants will take place by December 4
- Projects must be completed, and all funds spent, by June 30, 2027

Application Process

- Applications can be submitted using the link: Dean's Dissertation or Thesis (Application)
- In Qualtrics, you will be required to enter specific personal information and upload your proposal document; the proposal is not to exceed 5 pages with no less than 12-point font
- Project overview, including the following sections:
    - Author(s) name(s)
    - Title of the Project
    - Project description, including the following sections:
        - Background and significance of study
        - Research question(s) and/or Hypothesis(es)
        - Methodology
        - How the project aligns with one's current research agenda
    - Project timeline
    - Project budget and justification
    - Letter of support from dissertation or thesis chair – **NOT** counted in page limit

Requirements of awardees*

- Submit a maximum 1-page report documenting outcomes to the Associate Dean for Research, Resources, and Innovation by June 30, 2027.
- Provide assistance in disseminating the benefits of this project in the forms of quotations for stories and/or presentation(s) at College of Education events.

Northern Illinois University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.